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Vol. 1, No. 1
Display Until January 23, 1990

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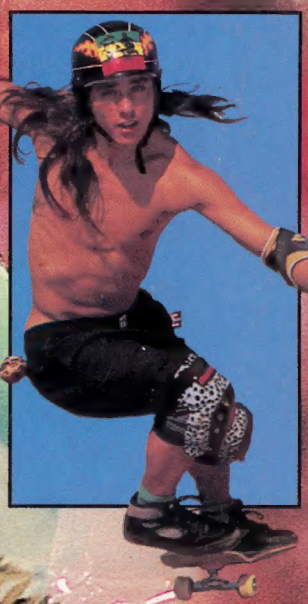

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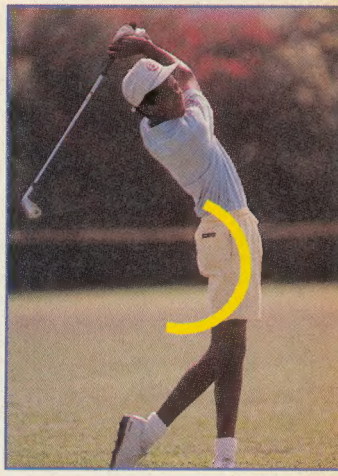

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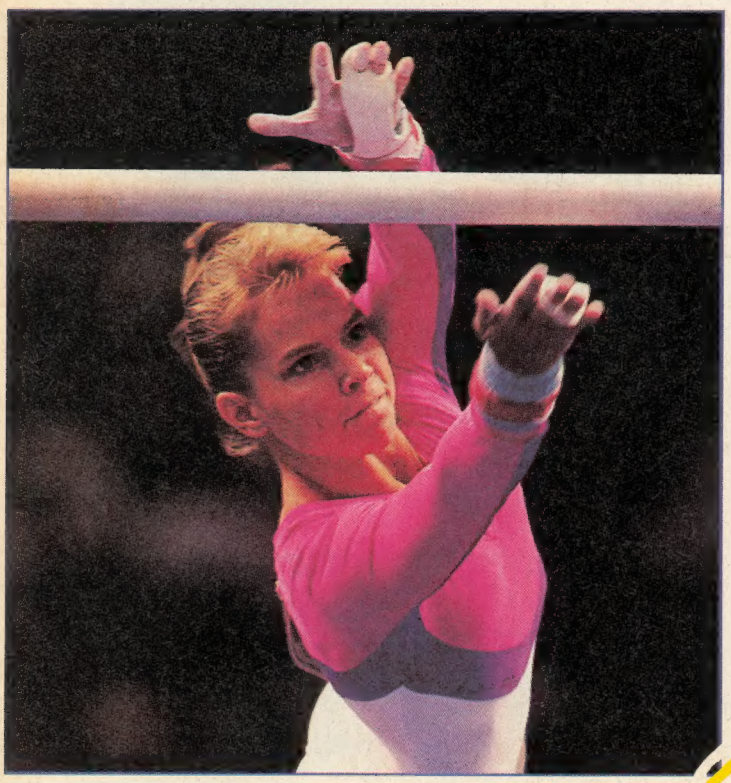

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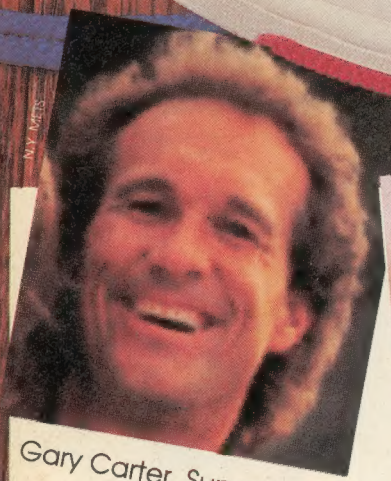
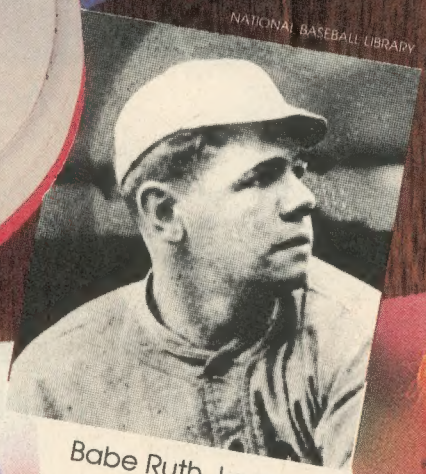
FROM THE EDITOR



Gary Carter. Superstar

Troy Aikman. Rookie.



Babe Ruth. Legend.

Brandy Johnson. Olympian.

What do these athletes all have in common? They're all featured in the first issue of *Game Player's Sports For Kids*! You'll meet them, and athletes like them, in these pages.

You'll find out about the games they play, too. Games you know, like football and basketball. Baseball and soccer. And maybe some you've never seen before, like beach volleyball.

From our stories, you'll get advice from every kind of athlete — how they play, how they think, how they got started, and how they got to where they are.

And what about the games *you* play? They're here, too! New York Jets

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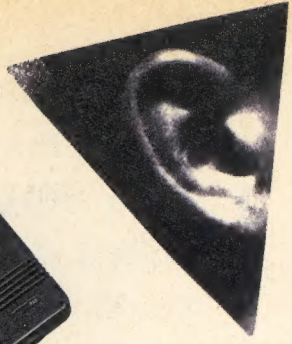

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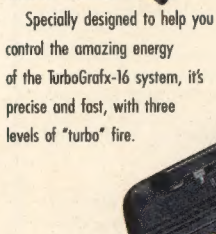

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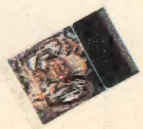

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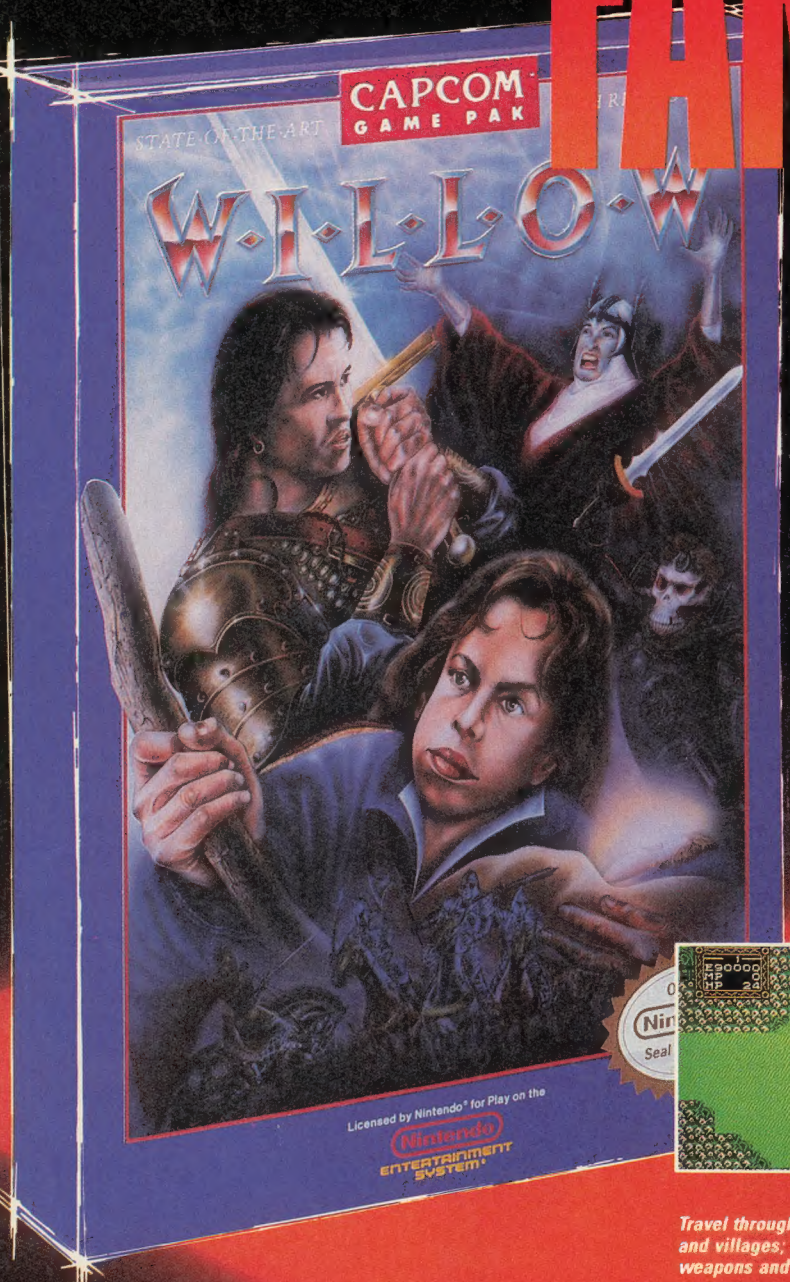

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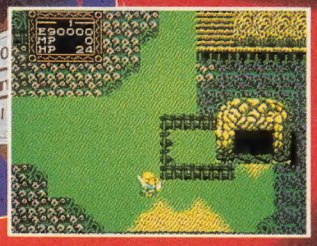
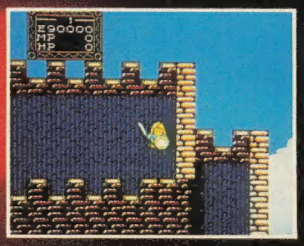


Travel through mysterious forests and villages; accumulating weapons and magic.



Be on guard for an action-filled battle with Queen Bavmorda.

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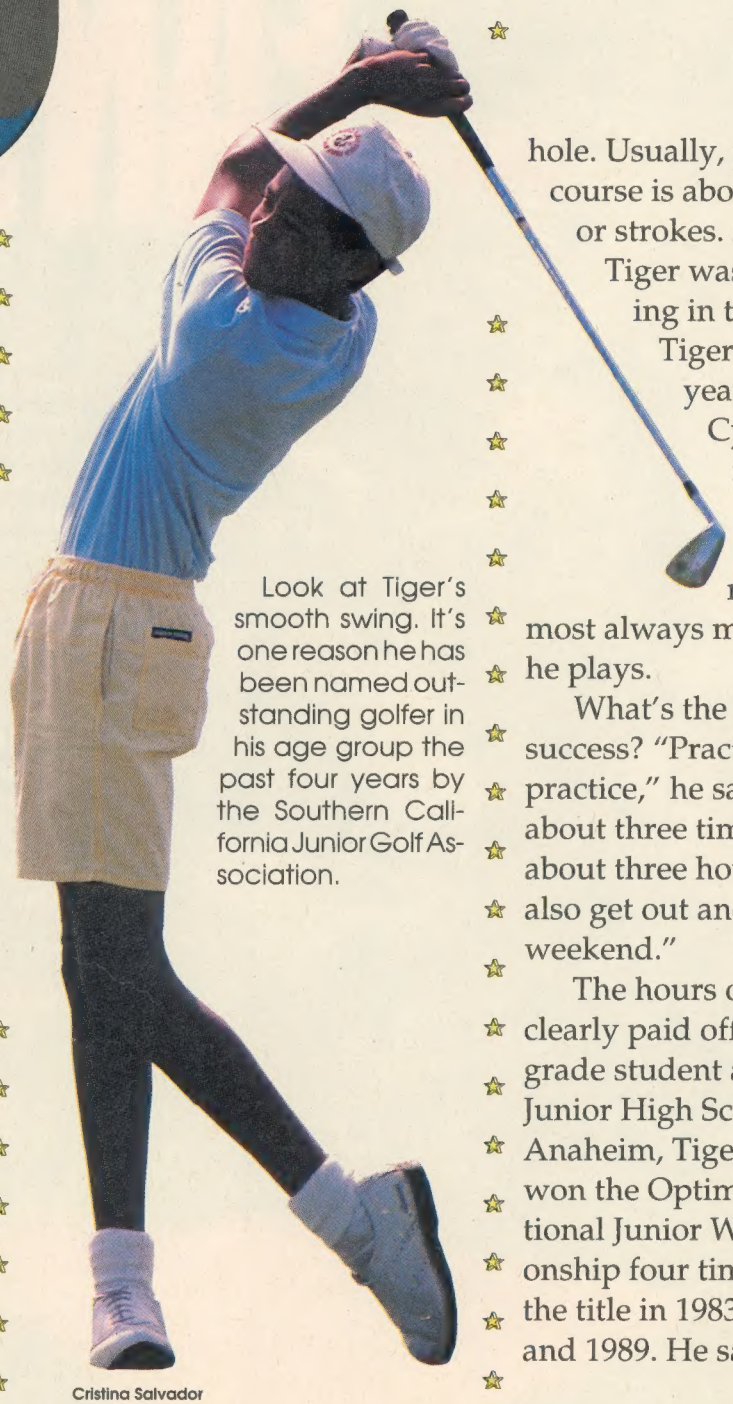
SUPERKIDS

TIGER ON THE PROWL

The future has always looked bright for the boy they call Tiger. At age 2, Eldrick "Tiger" Woods appeared on "The Mike Douglas Show" with Bob Hope. At age 5, Woods was featured on ABC-TV's "That's Incredible."

Why all the fuss? Well, at the time he appeared on "That's Incredible," Tiger was turning in amazing golf scores even before he was in the first grade at school!

Golfers always try to make par when they play because that's the number of golf swings it should take a good golfer to hit the ball into the hole. Usually, par on a golf course is about 72 swings, or strokes. And at age 5, Tiger was already shooting in the low 90s.



Look at Tiger's smooth swing. It's one reason he has been named outstanding golfer in his age group the past four years by the Southern California Junior Golf Association.

Cristina Salvador

Tiger is now 13 years old, lives in Cypress, California, and has become a scratch golfer. That means he almost always makes par when he plays.

What's the key to Tiger's success? "Practice, practice, practice," he says. "I practice about three times a week for about three hours each day. I also get out and play every weekend."

The hours of practice have clearly paid off. As an eighth-grade student at Orangeview Junior High School in nearby Anaheim, Tiger has already won the Optimist International Junior World Championship four times. He's taken the title in 1983, 1984, 1988, and 1989. He says his proud-

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SUPERKIDS

Cristina Salvador

OOPS! It looks like Tiger wants this shot back.

est achievement so far is a second-place finish in the Big I National Championship, which was played earlier this year in Arkansas.

Tiger's nickname has special significance. His father, Earl Woods, served as a soldier in Vietnam with a man who "fought like a tiger," says the young golfer. "So, in honor of his buddy, Dad calls me Tiger," he adds.

The future continues to shine for this 13-year-old. He hopes to play on the Professional Golf AssociationTour and eventually win each of the major tournament championships. And if for some reason he doesn't make the Tour? "I'm going go to go college to get a business degree just in case," says Tiger. "I'm going to get a good education."

GP

His father, Earl, took Woods to a driving range when he was only 18 months old — not to watch — but to hit his first bucket of golf balls!

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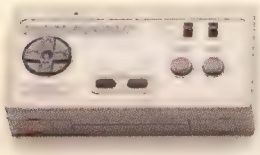

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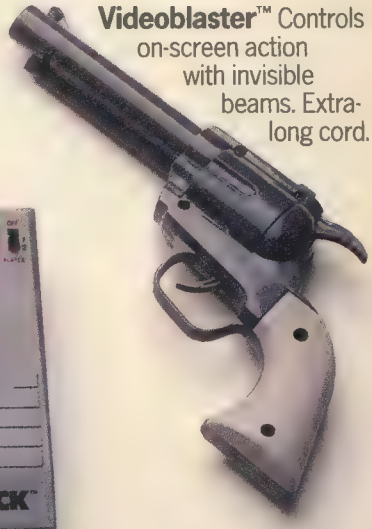

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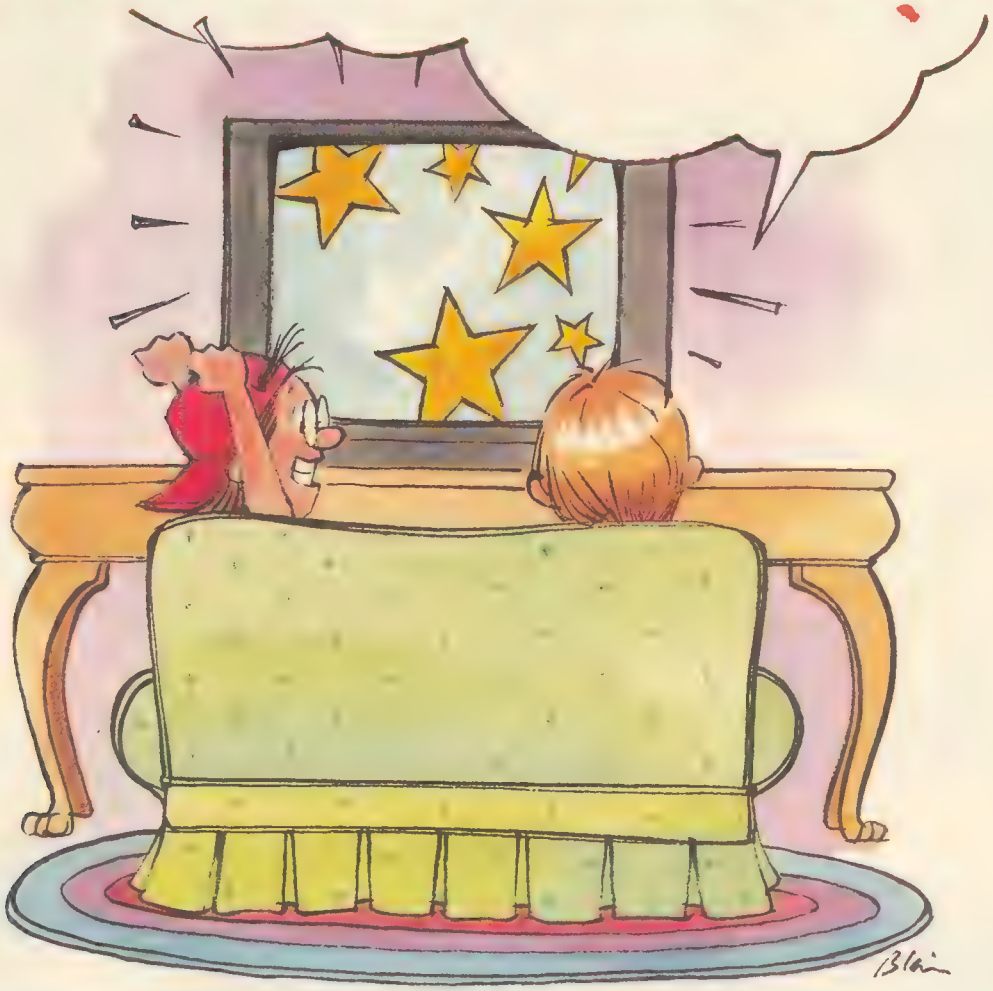

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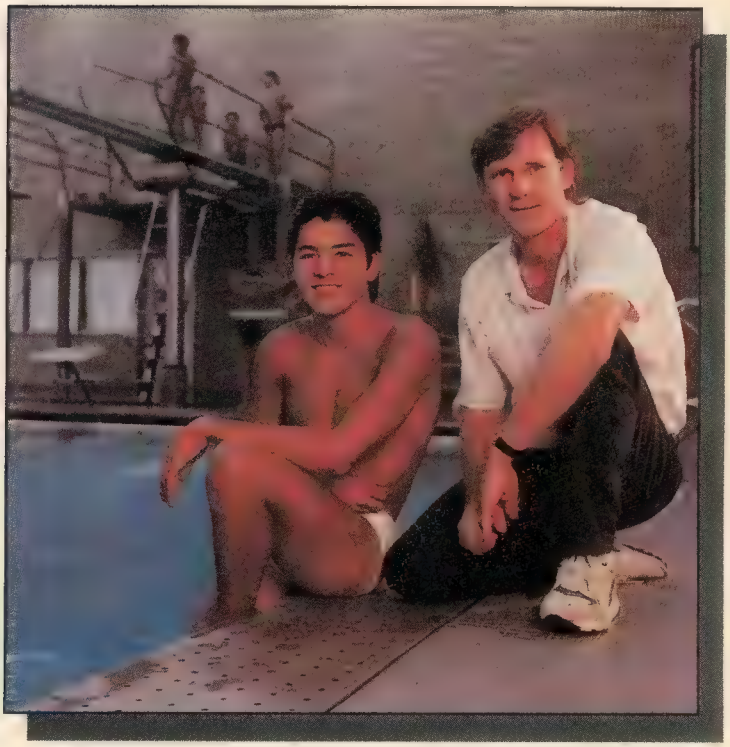
DIVING TO THE TOP



STEVE GOLDBERG

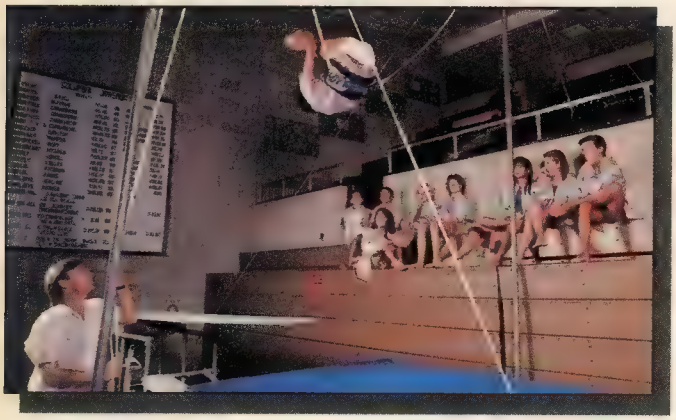
Kevin said his coach, Gordon Spencer, is incredible. "He knows what he's doing... He pushes you as hard as you want him to push you. He's like a mirror. If you want to work hard he will help you; if not he will still help you."

Where would you expect to find one of the nation's top young divers? California where there's plenty of water and sun? How about Broadway, New York City? That's where you will find 15-year-old Kevin Shima and his teammates.

Three-and-a-half flips, reverse 2 1/2 tucks, and inverted half pikes are difficult dives to learn, and they are scary too. Kevin, who lives in Tenafly, New Jersey, has put in many hours of practice mastering these complicated dives, and the practice has paid off.

Last spring Kevin won the East Coast Diving Championships. He finished first in the 1-meter and 3-meter springboard competitions. At the AAU/USA Junior Olympic Games in August he placed fifth in the 1-meter board, fifth in platform (about 32 feet high!), and sixth in the 3-meter (about 10 feet high) spring board competitions. That means Kevin is fifth in the nation for the platform and 1-meter boards and sixth in the nation for the 3-meter springboard for his age group.

Last August was Kevin's fourth Junior Olympics and his best yet. In 1988 he was one of the younger divers in the 14-15 age group. That made competition more difficult, but Kevin still placed eighth on the 1-meter,



STEVE GOLDBERG

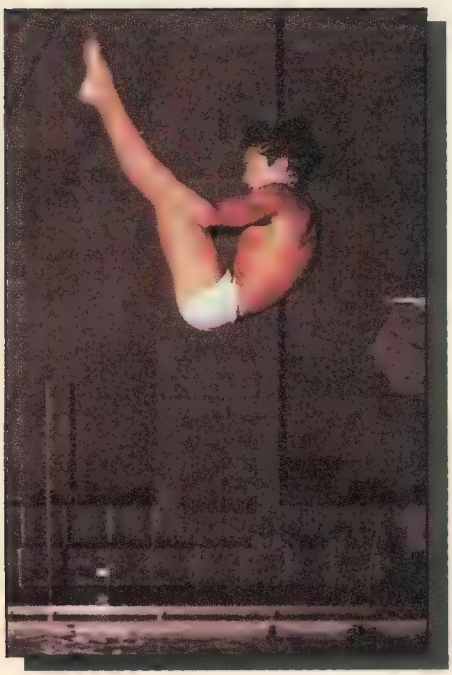
Kevin and his teammates learn new dives on a land board with ropes and belts. The coach pulls the ropes, keeping Kevin in the air and then sending him to land on an inflated mat.

STEVE GOLDBERG

The Morningside Muggers are called "muggers" because they are always out to steal the gold, and they have done it too. On the board: Daniel Brown, Kevin Shima, Carissa Zenorini, Lauren Cacciamani, and Lauren Lehrer. Standing: Andy Shyong, Andy Kim, Karalyn Shima, Eileen Shyong, Sally Magee, and Steve Santonicola. Kneeling: Coach Gordon Spencer and his daughter, Caitlin, the team mascot.

12th on the platform and 14th on the 3-meter board. This year his goal was to be in the top 12 in all three categories, and he made it to the top six!

Kevin says he loves diving because it is a challenging sport that "keeps me on my toes." He likes competitions and travels around the country competing in local and national events. He has been to California, Texas, Florida, and many other states.



STEVE GOLDBERG

Kevin's team practices three to five days a week, usually at a university near the famous street called Broadway.

"I have enough experience where I don't get nervous like I did three years ago," Kevin said. But, he said, it's good to be a little nervous because it keeps you "up."

When Kevin was in the second grade he started swimming on a local swim team. He began diving in the fourth grade. In the sixth grade he began taking lessons from Gordon Spencer, Columbia University's diving coach.

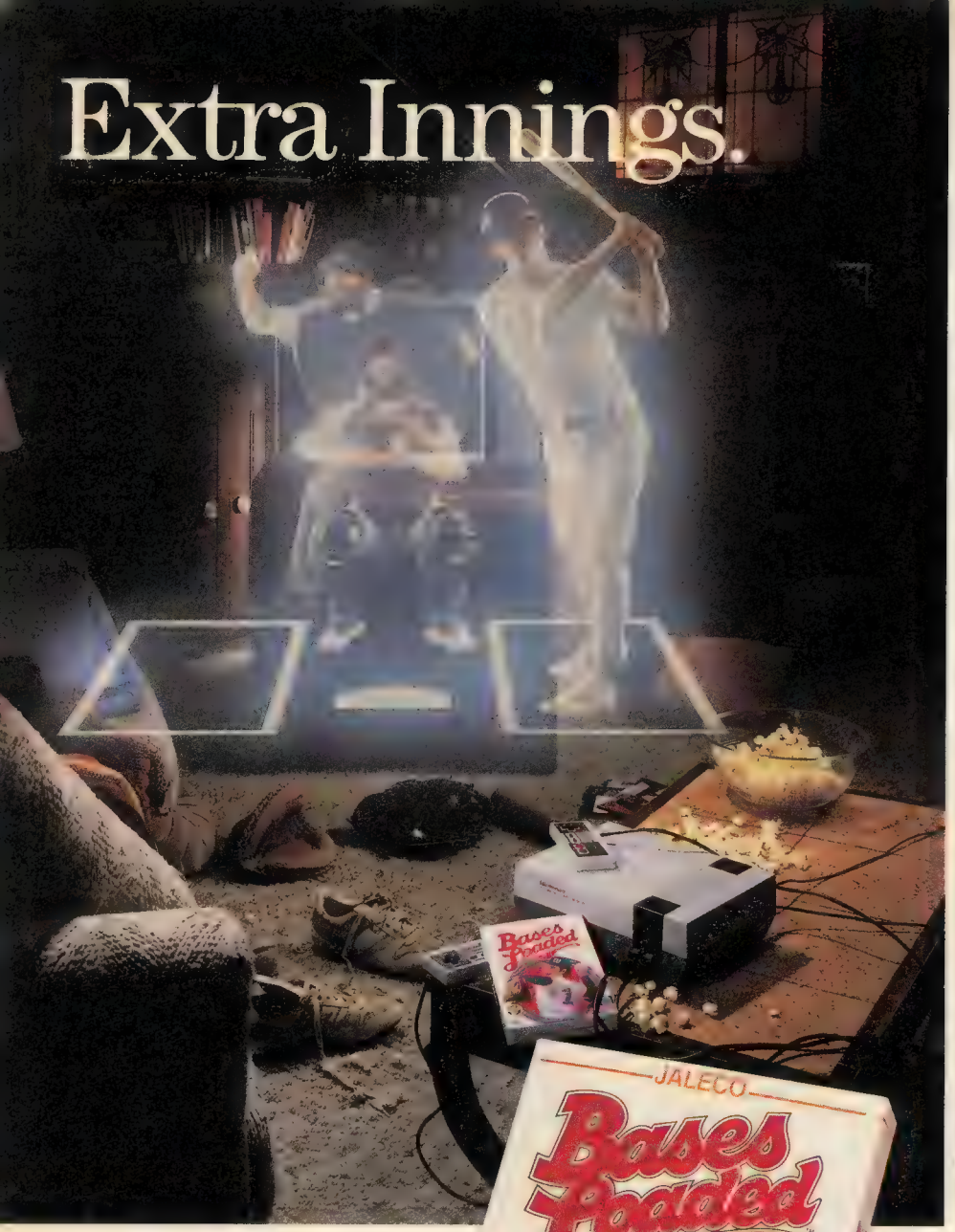
"My basic philosophy as a coach is that it should be fun for me and the team," Spencer said. Besides having fun, the divers set goals, reach goals, and learn new dives, he said.

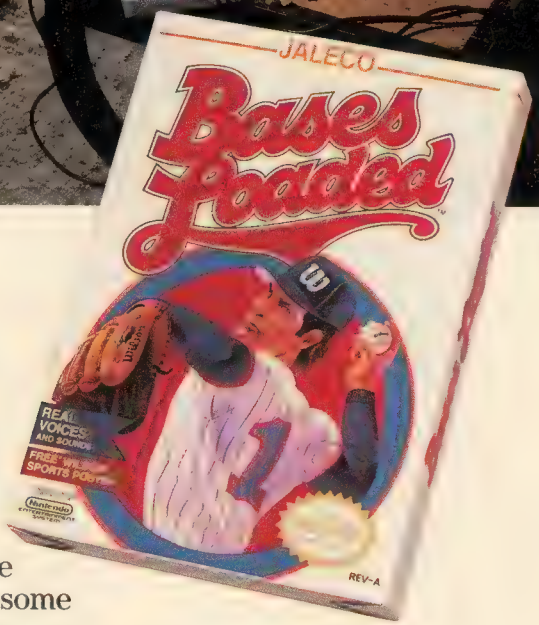
There are many rewards to diving, Spencer said, including a sense of pride in your team and yourself. Diving scholarships (money to use for college) are another reward that Kevin and his teammates have a good chance of receiving.

Most of Kevin's best friends are on the team and that helps him get through the meets. "If you've got the support of the team you can really do anything," said Kevin.

GP

Extra Innings.





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AN INSIDE LOOK

Playing football for the Michigan Wolverines has definite advantages. For one thing, you win a lot. For the last 20 years, Michigan teams have averaged eight wins and only two losses per season. They've played in bowl games for 16 of those 20 years. Michigan knows how to win.

"It's fun to play with a group of guys who *expect* to win," said senior tight end Derrick Walker. "We know we have a tradition to uphold."

The Wolverine football tradition began in Chicago in 1879 when Michigan took the field against a team called Racine. Michigan won that game 1-0. (The score looks like a baseball final because games were scored differently back then.)

Another advantage of playing at Michigan is that a lot of people get to see you play. For each home game more than 105,000 people file into Michigan Stadium, the largest in the land. Often the game is on national television so that millions more can watch.

However, the biggest reason to suit up for the "Big Blue" at Michigan is the chance to play for one of college football's living legends, Bo Schembechler. "He's a father figure for a lot of us," said Walker, who starts for the team. "He's a disciplinarian who forces us to do all the little things right," he said.

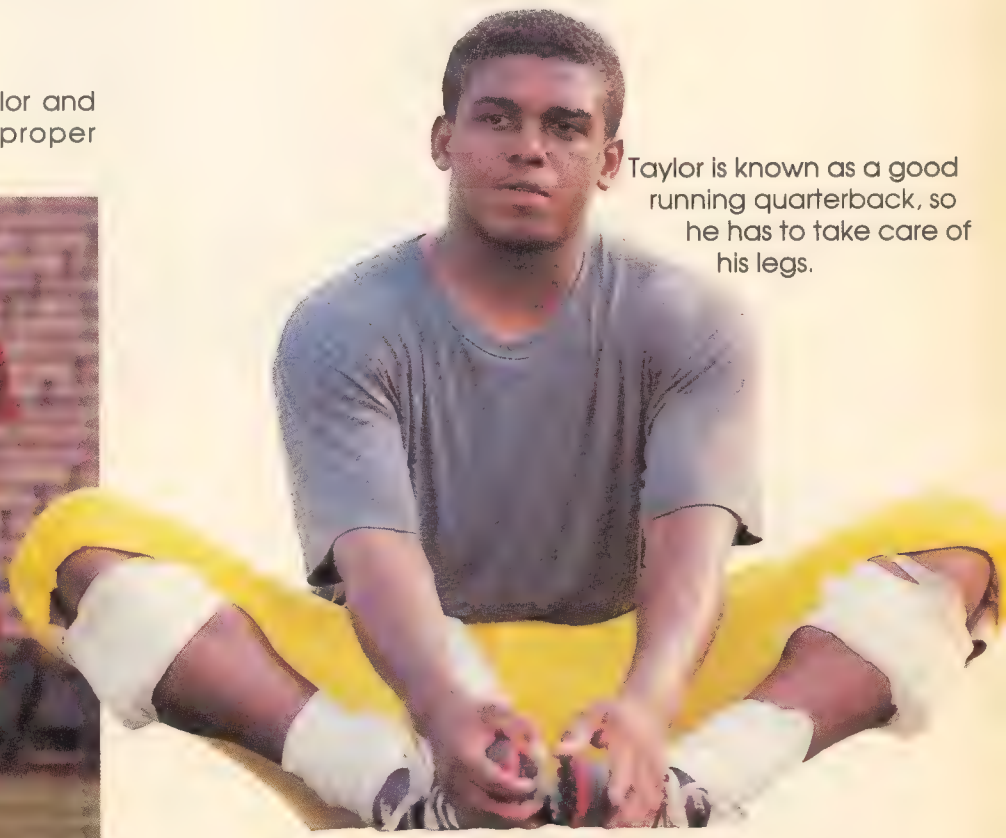
The time to take care of those little things is during practice. Preparation is so important to Coach Schembechler that practices have been closed to the public and the press for more than twenty years. Most coaches don't have such strict rules.

However, Schembechler did let *Game Player's Sports For Kids* into Michigan Stadium to bring you an inside look at how these Wolverines prepare for their games.

To be able to play on Saturday, the players have to perform well in the classroom during the week. Derrick Walker, a communications major, is a great athlete *and* a good student.

Walker and quarterback Michael Taylor are not only teammates, they're good friends, too. "We've been through a lot of hard times together," said the tight end.

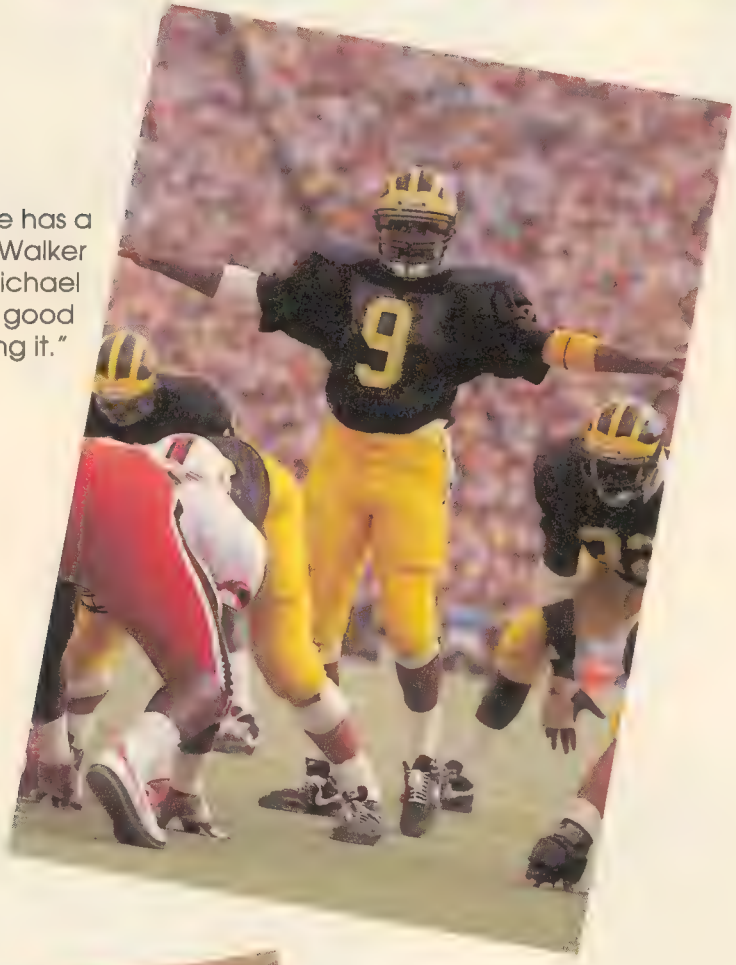
Coach Schembechler shows Taylor and backup QB Elvis Grbac the proper technique.



Taylor is known as a good running quarterback, so he has to take care of his legs.

Taylor has a strong arm. In high school, he was an all-league pitcher with an ERA of 2.10!

Every defense has a weakness," Walker said, "and Michael (Taylor) is very good at finding it."

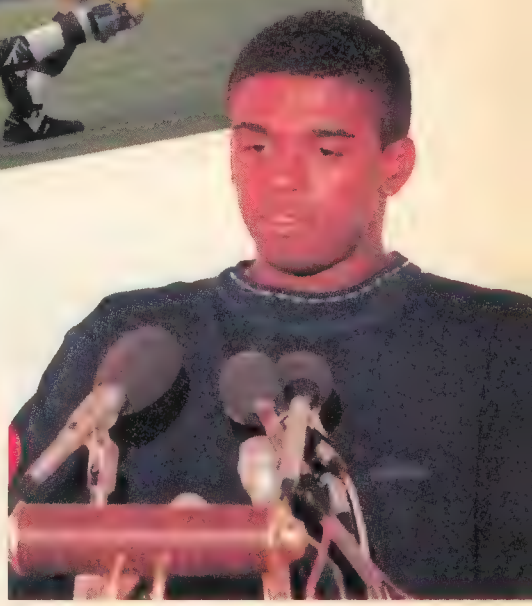


Walker's hero growing up was Chicago Bear great Walter Payton. It looks like Payton even taught him a thing or two.

Walker was an all-state linebacker in high school. Now he takes hits instead of dishing them out.

The bottom line for Bo is winning," Walker said of his coach. "He's very intense on the sidelines."

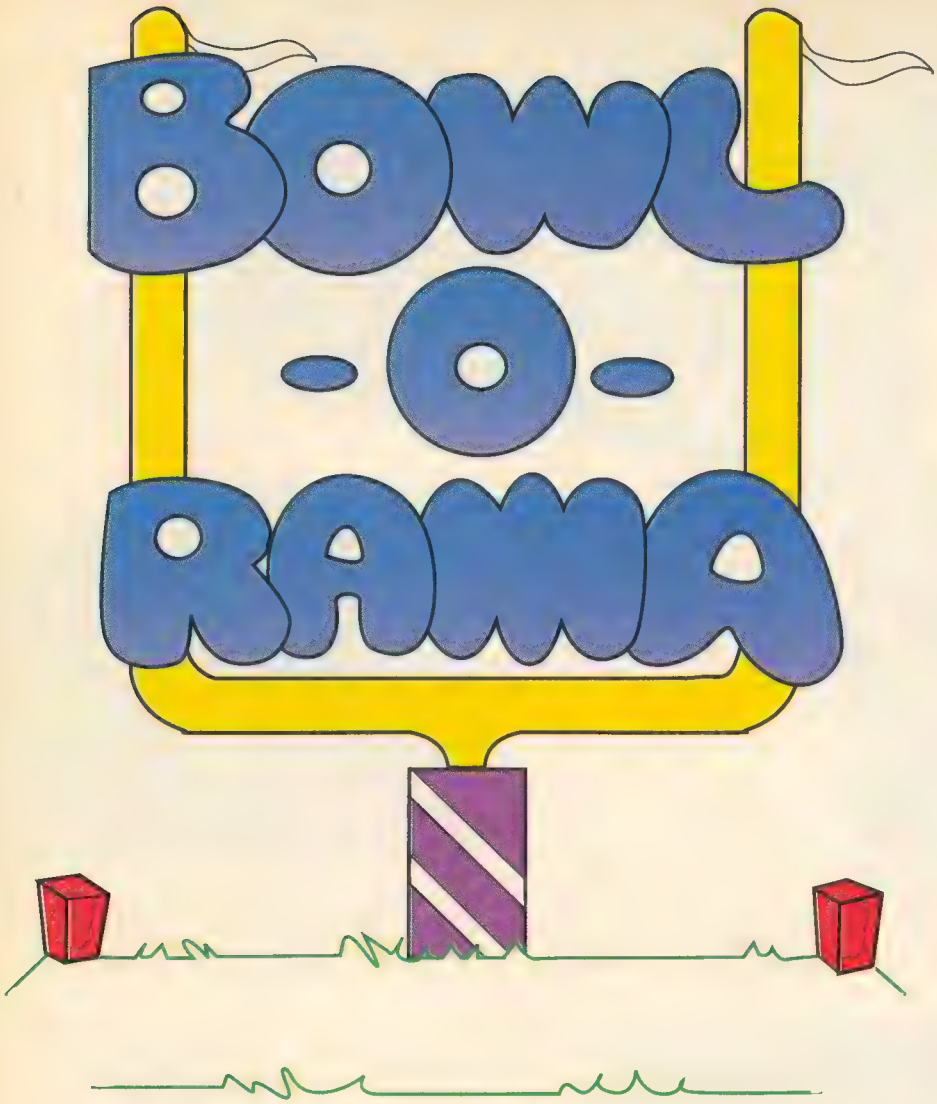
These young fans are among the 105,000 who turned out for a Michigan game earlier this season.



It's up to Taylor to speak for the team after yet another win.

The Michigan football helmet is unlike any other. It's supposed to be. Way back in 1938, the head football coach at Michigan, Fritz Crisler, decided he wanted a unique helmet design. In those days, all football teams wore dark uniforms. There were no "home" and "away" jerseys. So, to help his quarterbacks spot their receivers, Crisler decided on the now-famous winged helmet.

GP



College football doesn't have playoffs like professional football. Instead, the best teams are selected to play in "bowl" games in December and January. Often, bowl games determine which team is named national champion. For example, Notre Dame defeated West Virginia 34-21 in the Fiesta Bowl last season. They were then declared the best team in the nation.

Can you guess which bowls these players represent?

1.

This year the 76th _____ Bowl will be played in Pasadena, California. There is a huge parade before the game and all the floats are covered with flowers.

2.

Played in Florida, the _____ Bowl is named after a reptile that has sharp teeth, a long nose, and green skin.

3.

This bowl was first played in Philadelphia and has the same name as America's most famous bell. The _____ Bowl is now played in Memphis, Tennessee.

The _____ Bowl is played in Honolulu, Hawaii, and gets its name from the Hawaiian word for "hello" and "goodbye."

5.

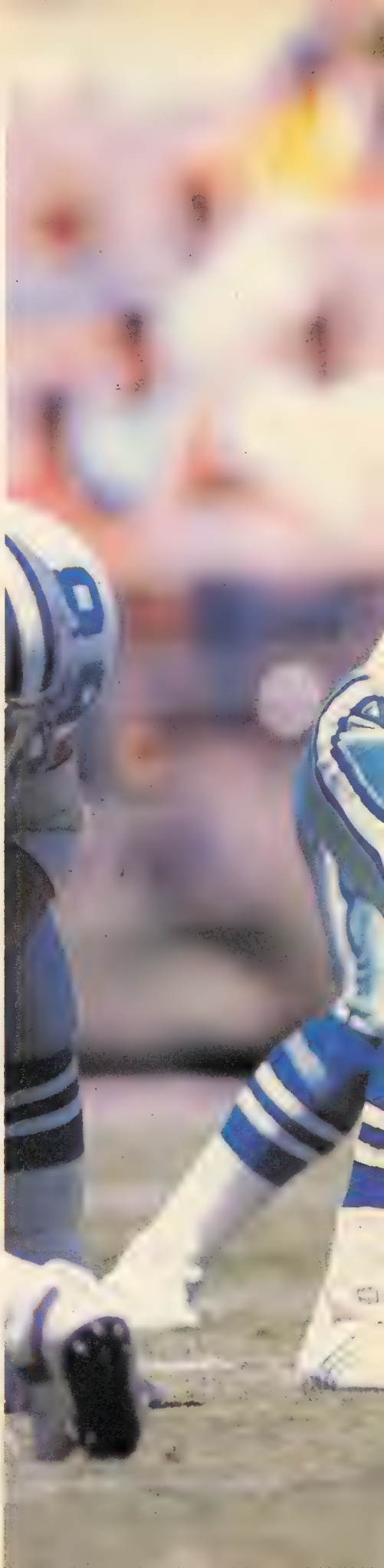
6.

Played in Dallas, Texas, the _____ Bowl gets its name from a plant used to make shirts, sheets, and blue jeans.

4.

The _____ Bowl is played in Miami, Florida, and is named after a fruit that's grown in the Sunshine State.

THE NEW BOYS IN "BIG D".



ALLSPORT USA/ROBERT BECK

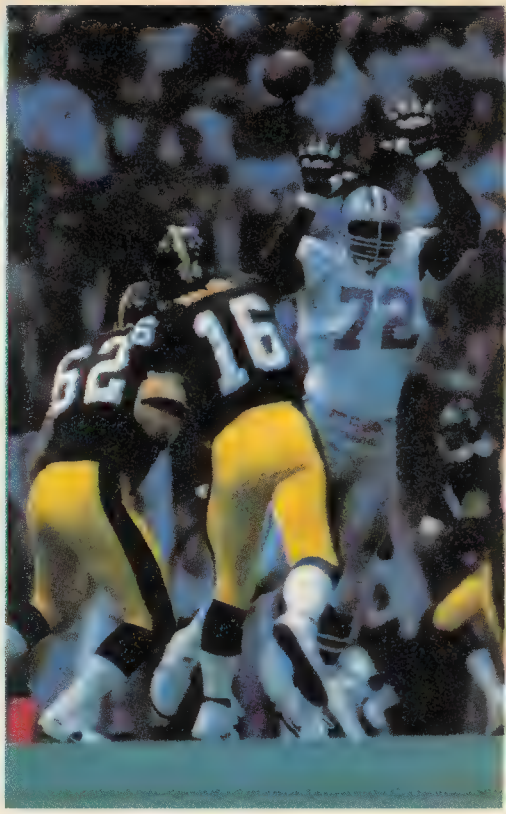
Is Aikman's arm as golden as his hair? Only time will tell.

LAYNE MURDOCH

Jimmy Johnson takes over for Tom Landry, the only coach the Cowboys have ever had.

Michael Irvin has always had a knack for getting into the end zone. The Cowboys hope this trend continues.

ALLSPORT USA/DEAN STEELE



LAYNE MURDOCH

Ed "Too Tall" Jones is the team's elder. He's playing in his 15th season and has suited up for more than 220 professional football games!

Jimmy Johnson has a mission: rebuild "America's Team." As the new head coach of the Dallas Cowboys, Johnson is trying to lead this once-proud football team back to the Super Bowl. He knows that the job will take time.

"We are not (simple) enough to think we are going to come in and all of a sudden jump to the upper (rank) of the NFL," said Johnson, who was coaching a very successful college team, the Miami Hurricanes, this time last year.

If the Cowboys are going to be successful, a lot will depend on a talented new quarterback named Troy Aikman. One of the Cowboys' coaches said Aikman has the "magic" that separates the truly great quarterbacks from the rest of the pack.

DALLAS COWBOYS WEEKLY

Leading the defense will be Ken Norton, Jr., son of the former heavyweight boxing champion of the world. Norton played with Aikman two years ago for UCLA.

That magic, or the ability to make things happen, led to ten victories for his UCLA Bruins last year. Now he's fulfilling a dream he's had all his life — to play in the NFL. He even gets to direct the team he grew up pulling for.

Can Aikman's magic take these Cowboys to the Super Bowl? His teammate, superstar Herschel Walker, thinks so. "He has a lot of talent, he believes in himself, and he works very hard," said the All-Pro running back. "And the players believe in him, too."

Even if the California kid fades into the Texas sunset, the Cowboys can still count their lucky lone stars. Aikman's backup is another

LAYNE MURDOCH

Herschel Walker, one of the greatest backs of all time, will lead the Dallas ground attack.

Quarterbacks better keep an eye out for Danny Noonan, the Cowboys' strongest player. He tied for the team-lead in sacks last season.

RON SCRIBNER

new cowpoke, Steve Walsh. Walsh won 23 of the 24 games he started as a college quarterback and has always found a way to get the job done. In college, Walsh played for Jimmy Johnson at Miami, so he knows what to expect from Dallas' new coach.

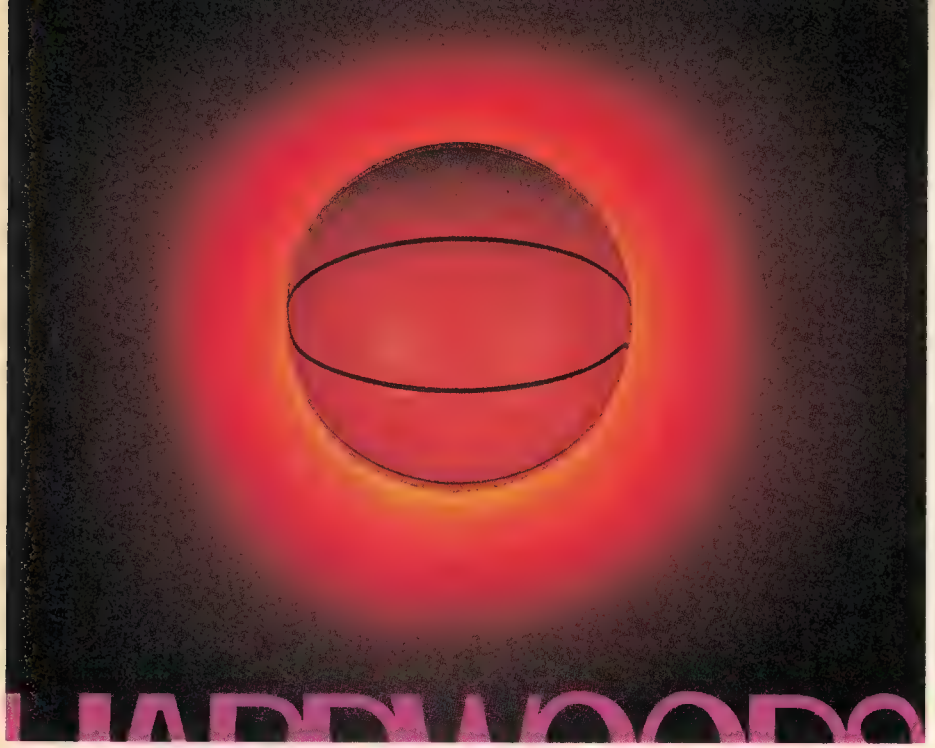
Another former Hurricane player, Michael Irvin, will also be an important man in the Cowboys' future. Irvin is a big-play wide receiver who is a threat to score every time he catches the ball. The license plate on his car reads "Playmaker."

However, even with all the talent on this team, preparation will be the key for the boys in "Big D." At least Herschel Walker thinks so. "Young kids have to remember that even for things like classwork, preparation leads to confidence, and confidence leads to good results," he said.

Those good results may take some time. The team is young and there are no easy victories in the NFL. However, with patience and faith in their abilities, Walker said the Cowboys will achieve the kind of success Dallas fans are used to. "I tell young folks that you have to believe in yourself," he said. "There are no excuses in life. You have to get out there and do it."

Steve Walsh, a first-rate first-stringer, will have to play second fiddle to Troy Aikman this season.

GP



HARDWOODS '89-90

With the '89-90 season, college basketball begins a new era of thrills, cheers, jams, and slams. As we close the chapter on the '80s, some questions about the '90s come to mind. Can the Michigan men's and Tennessee women's teams begin the new decade the way they ended the last — as national champions? Which players will grab the headlines and carry their teams to the top? Which players have the best shot at playing pro ball?

The answers depend partly on these 10 faces. They are among the best of the best in college basketball today. One of them might be the next Michael Jordan or the next Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Hank Gathers is one of only two men who have ever led the nation in scoring AND rebounding.

Venus Lacy plays like she's from another planet. She dominates! In fact, she has a chance at being named player of the year.

One player in particular stands out from the crowd. Last season he scored more points and grabbed more rebounds per game than any other big college player. His name is Hank Gathers and he plays for a team in California — the Loyola Marymount Lions. He says hustle and hard work are the big reasons for his success.

"I know there are some guys with better basketball skills than me," Gathers said, "but no one can work harder than me." The Philadelphia native says that's the attitude he tries to take out onto the court.

Another reason for Gathers' success is the high-flying, turbo-charged offense that his team uses. It doesn't take long for the explosive Lions to light up the scoreboard. They averaged more than 112 points per game last season!

"I probably wouldn't be leading the country in scoring if I were playing for another college," said Gathers, a 6'7" forward. "Our offense gives us a lot of freedom."

Gathers said his coach, Paul Westhead, deserves a lot of credit for his success. Westhead, who once coached the Los Angeles Lakers to a world championship, has said that his team should shoot every four or five seconds. Once, the Lions beat U.S. International University by a score of 181-150!

For Gathers, it all started at St. Elizabeth in Philadelphia. His basketball career began there in the eighth grade after a one-year delay. He didn't try out for the team his first year because he wanted to be an altar boy. "I didn't know much about Catholicism at the time," remembers Gathers, "I just thought it'd be fun to be an altar boy."

Since his days at St. Elizabeth, Gathers has received a lot of publicity and numerous awards. However, he says his proudest achievement is becoming a good team player. "Being a team player makes me happier than leading the country in scoring and rebounding," he said. "It's important to me to know that the guys on the team like to play with me."

Gathers heads the list of players to watch this season. Now meet some of the other top players in college basketball today.

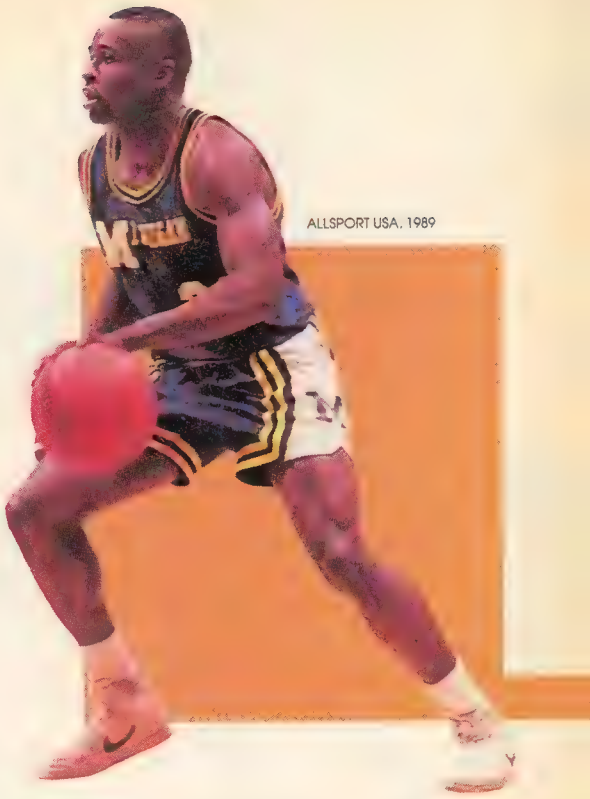
GP

Stacey "Ice" Augmon is a master thief. He's stolen the ball from opponents 128 times in his career.

ALLSPORT USA/Damian Strohmeyer, 1989

Chris Jackson scored more than 30 points per game his first year in college. Once, against Florida, he scored 53 points!

ALLSPORT USA, 1989



Rumeal Robinson's two free throws with three seconds left guaranteed a national championship for the Michigan Wolverines. He's back this year to try to make it two in a row.

The terror in the middle: Alonzo Mourning. Many people say he's the next Patrick Ewing.

Jerry Wachter

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Don't miss a single issue — Order your subscription to *Game Player's Sports For Kids* today!

FOR KIDS!

ALLSPORT USA/David Klutho, 1989

A big reason Tennessee won the national basketball championship last year is Dena Head. She makes good decisions and few mistakes.

Rod Searcey/Courtesy Stanford University

All-American Jennifer Azzi was the player of the year in her conference last season. She's an excellent all-around point guard.

Scott Sharpe

Andrea Stinson has been called the female Michael Jordan. She scores more than 26 points per game!

Ten To Watch: College Basketball '89-90

The Men:

- Chris Jackson — 6' 1" Sophomore Guard — Louisiana State
- Rumeal Robinson — 6' 2" Senior Guard — Michigan
- Alonzo Mourning — 6' 10" Sophomore Center — Georgetown
- Hank Gathers — 6' 7" Senior Forward — Loyola Marymount
- Stacey Augmon — 6' 7" Senior Forward — Nevada-Las Vegas

The Women:

- Dana Head — 5' 10" Sophomore Guard — Tennessee
- Andrea Stinson — 5' 10" Junior Guard — N.C. State
- Jennifer Azzi — 5' 9" Senior Guard — Stanford
- Venus Lacy — 6' 4" Senior Center — Louisiana Tech
- Vickie Hall — 6' 1" Sophomore Forward — Texas

Courtesy University of Texas

Vickie Hall is hoping to play for the U.S. in the 1992 Olympics. Until then, she'll try to win Texas a national championship.

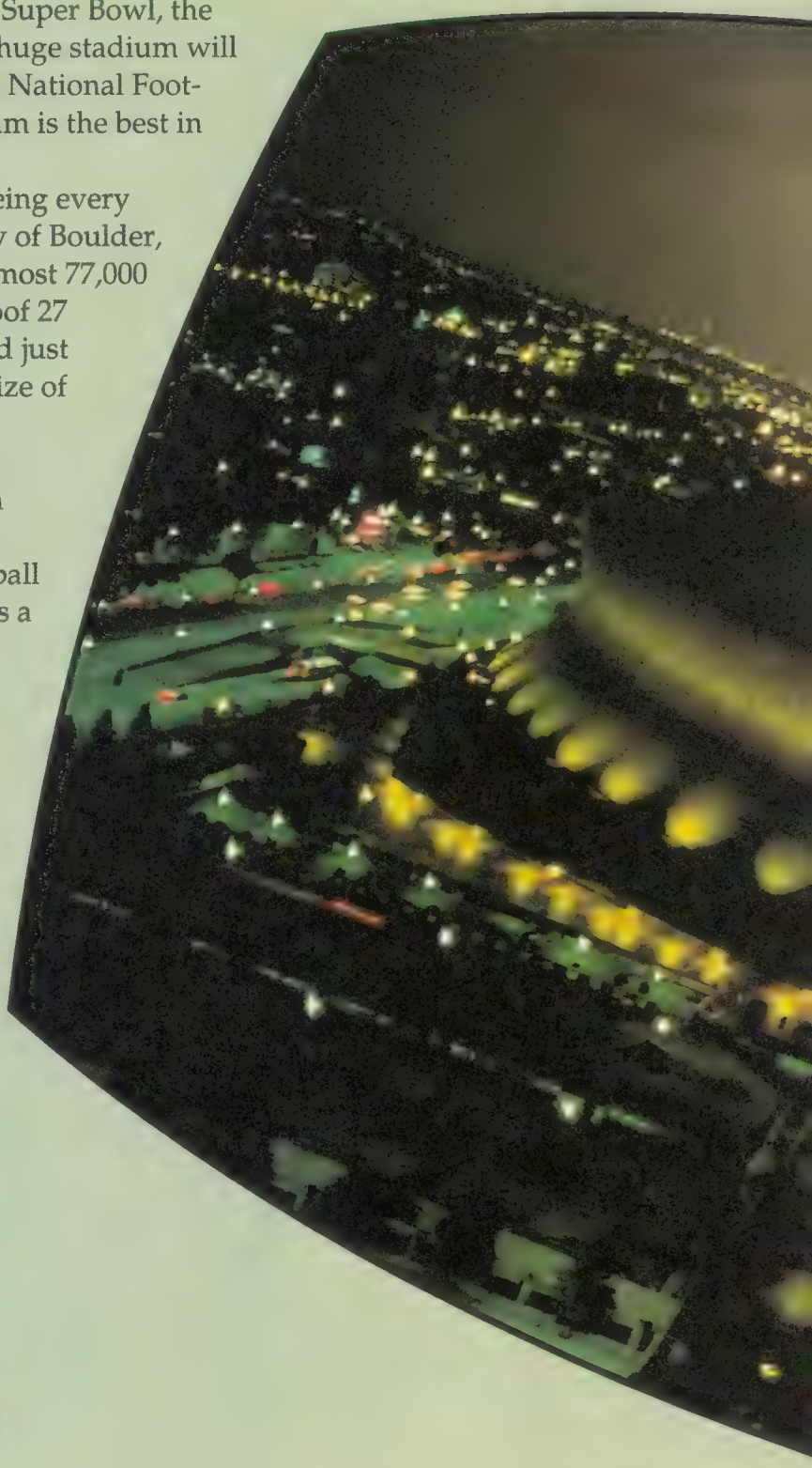
SUPER BOWL

The Superdome is the home of the 1990 Super Bowl, the biggest event in professional football. This huge stadium will get national attention in January as two top National Football League teams meet to decide which team is the best in the world.

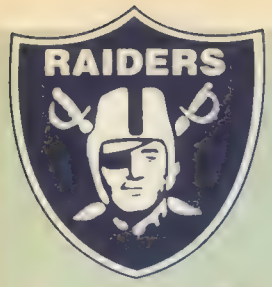
How big is the Superdome? Imagine seeing every man, woman and child who lives in the city of Boulder, Colorado, together in one place — that's almost 77,000 people. Then picture a giant room with a roof 27 stories high, taller than many buildings, and just over two football fields wide — that's the size of the Louisiana Superdome stadium.

Super Bowl XXIV (this Roman numeral stands for the number 24) will be played on Sunday, January 28, 1990. The Superdome, which opened in 1975, will seat 76,791 football fans that Sunday. Because the Super Bowl is a special football game, more people get to crowd into the Superdome to watch the game than for other football games played there. For regular games, the Superdome seats only 70,000 — almost 7,000 fewer people than will come to the Super Bowl!

Superdome Super Bowl audiences have been dazed, dazzled, and sometimes even disappointed as some of the best (and some of the worst) NFL sports records were set there in years past. Read more about the record-setters on the next two pages.



Home of Super Bowl XXIV (24), the Louisiana Superdome opened August 3, 1975 and has already hosted three other Super Bowls, including the first one played indoors, Super Bowl XII (12) in 1978.



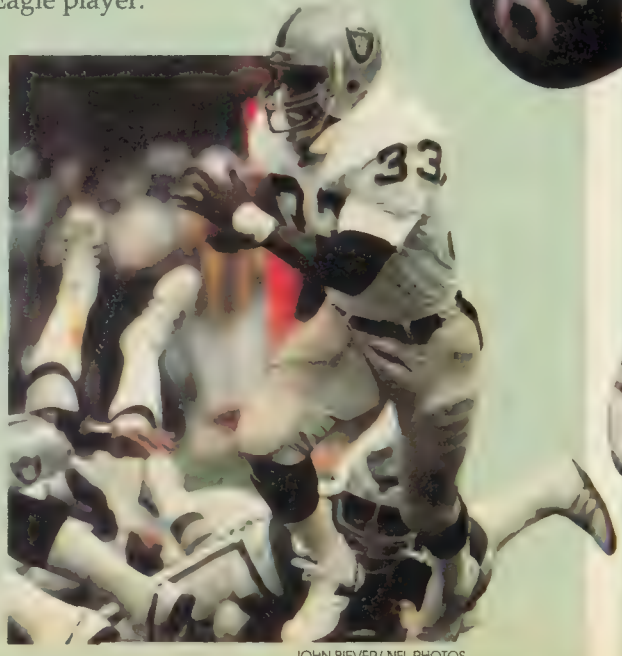
VS

The Oakland Raiders bowled over the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XV (15) by a score of 27-10. Many players might have won the Most Valuable Player Award for their excellent efforts that day, but Raider quarterback Jim Plunkett walked away with the prize. He completed 13 passes in 21 tries and passed for three of Oakland's touchdowns.

THE ALLEN S/ NFL PHOTOS

MICHAEL ZAGARIS/ NFL PHOTOS

When Super Bowl IV (4) was played at New Orleans' Tulane Stadium in 1970, Rodney Parker was working in the stands as an usher. When Super Bowl XV was played in 1981, Parker was a wide receiver for the Philadelphia Eagles. Early in the game, he saw a chance for a dream-come-true slip through his fingers. Parker caught a pass in the end zone late in the first quarter, but the touchdown didn't count because of a penalty that was called against another Eagle player.

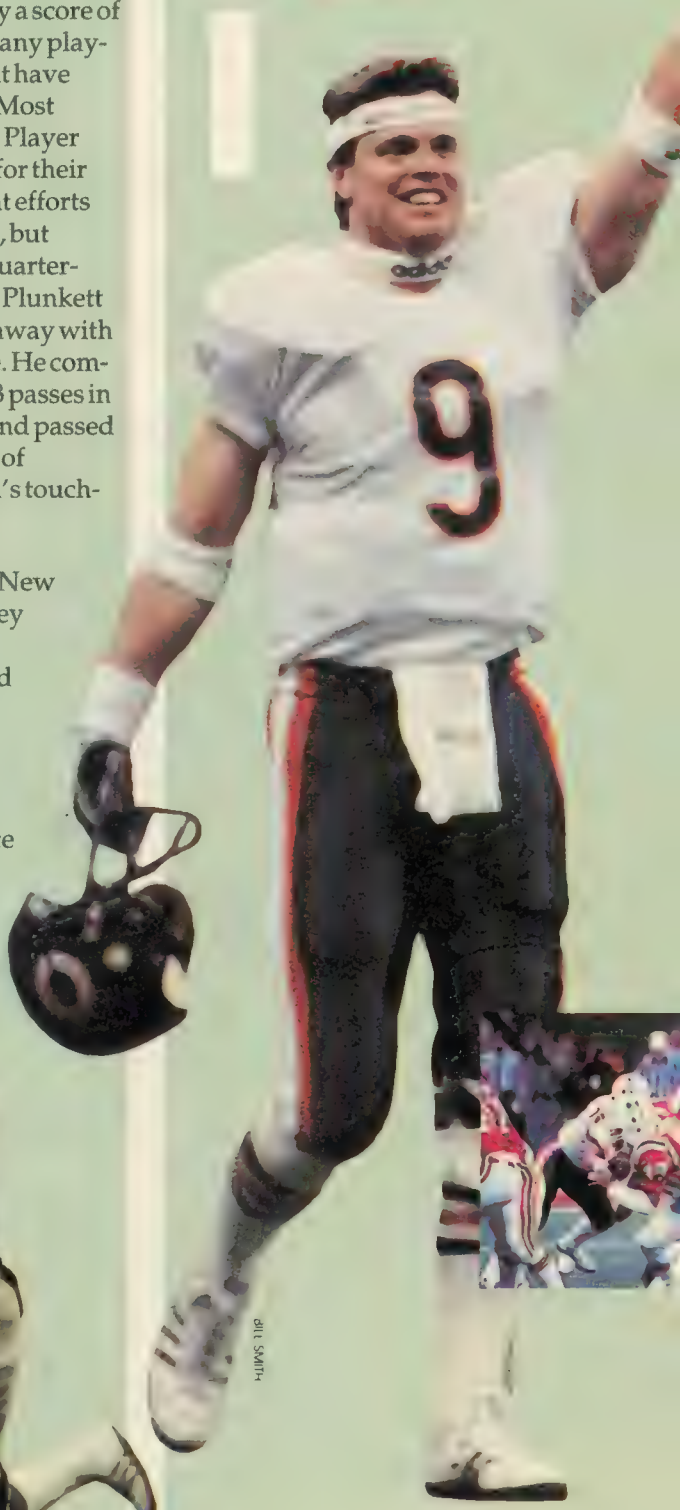


JOHN BIEVER/ NFL PHOTOS

Raider running back Kenny King caught 22 passes during regular-season play, but not one of them was for a touchdown. With just over a minute left to play in the first quarter of Super Bowl XV, quarterback Jim Plunkett passed the ball to King. King caught the ball and sprinted 80 yards to complete the longest scoring play in Super Bowl history.

C

V



BILL SMITH

Bears' quarterback Jim McMahon may have set a Super Bowl record for the number of headbands worn during a game. But he made other people's heads turn with his passing skills. The quarterback wound up passing or running for six of the eight playoff touchdowns scored by Chicago's offense.

BILL SMITH

The largest TV audience in history — for any event, not just a sportscast — watched in 1986 as the Chicago Bears roared over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XX (20) by a score of 46-10. William "The Refrigerator" Perry of the Bears even made it into the scoring column during the Super Bowl with a one-yard touchdown run, even though he didn't usually carry the ball.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

The New England Patriots, led by quarterbacks Tony Eason and Steve Grogan (shown here), made NFL history on the road to the Super Bowl. They won three straight playoff victories away from their home field to get to the Superdome. But New England ended Super Bowl XX (20) with only 123 total yards of offense, the second worst record in Super Bowl history, and only seven rushing yards, a record low. No Super Bowl loser had ever been beaten by as many points.

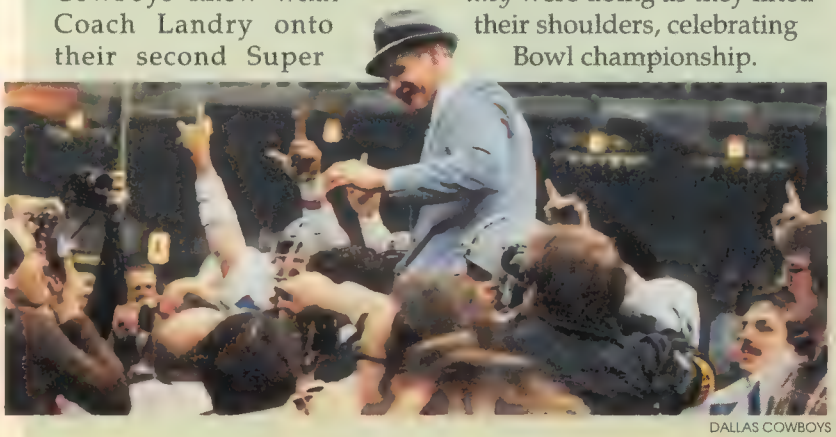
DALLAS COWBOYS

Denver Bronco quarterback Craig Morton had played nine seasons with the Cowboys, but his old teammates were not very friendly to him on the playing field that day. They intercepted four of his passes during the first half of play. That was unusual because he had been intercepted only eight times in 14 regular-season games. Morton completed only four of 15 passes against the Cowboys that day.

Dallas quarterback Roger Staubach broke the tip of his right forefinger during the Super Bowl, and played the fourth quarter unable to pass the football. But they still won! The Cowboys ended the 1977 regular season with the best record in the National Football Conference, winning 12 games and losing two.

DALLAS COWBOYS

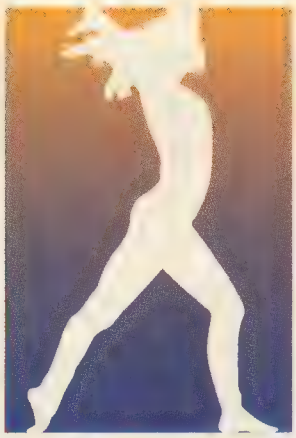
The Dallas Cowboys crunched Denver's Orange Crush in Super Bowl XII (12), 27-10, at the Superdome. Dallas coach Tom Landry said " The players don't want to see me rushing around and screaming. They want to believe I know what I'm doing." The Cowboys knew what *they* were doing as they lifted Coach Landry onto their shoulders, celebrating their second Super Bowl championship.



DALLAS COWBOYS

Photograph Copyright© Dave Black 1989

AGING TO Perfection

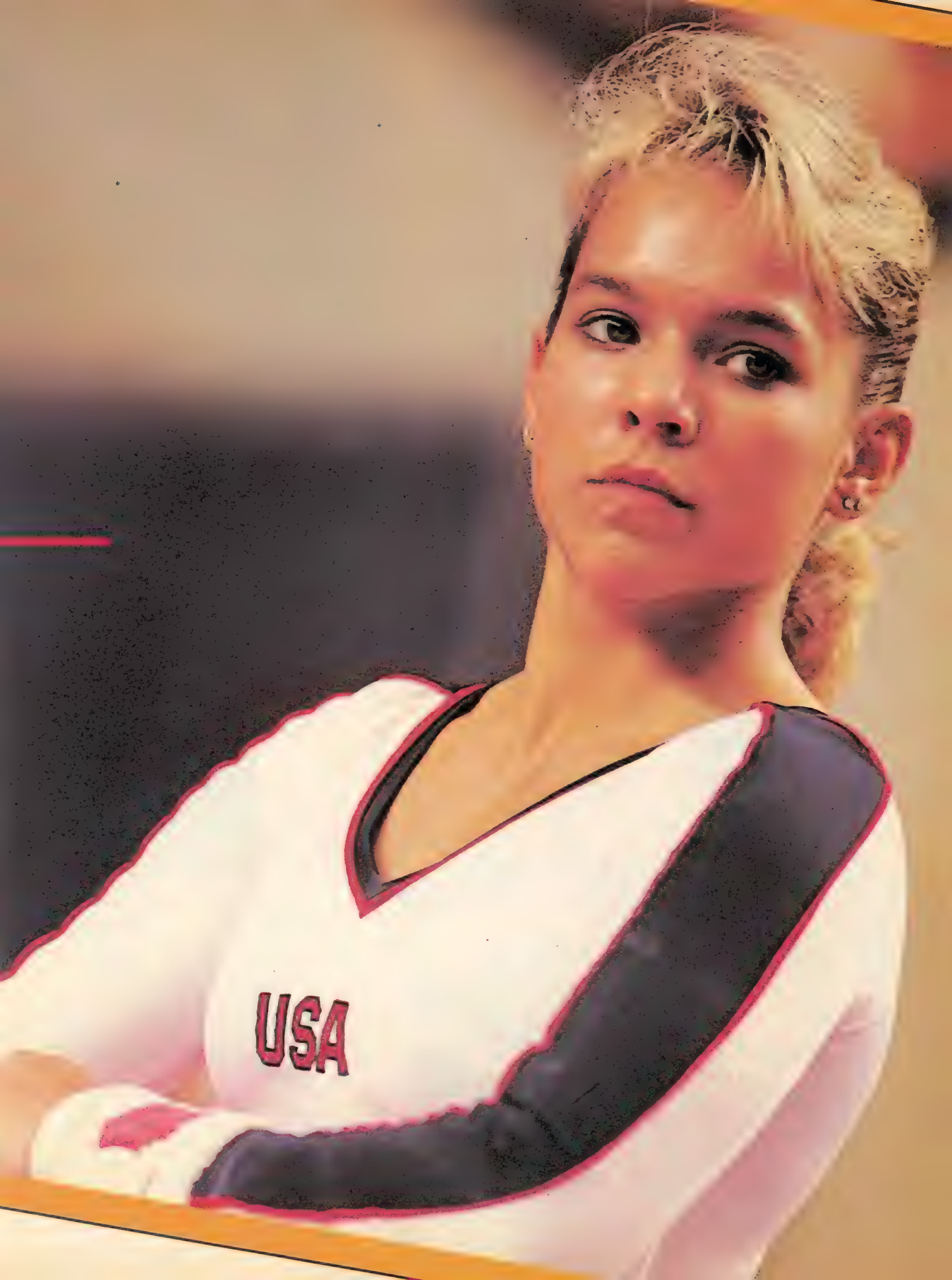


"Set your goals, listen to your heart, and don't let anything stand in your way. Anything is possible if you try hard enough."

That's what Brandy Johnson tells beginning gymnasts — and she knows what she's talking about.

Brandy got her start in gymnastics ten years ago. When she was six, she joined a tumbling class at the Tallahassee Tumbling Tots in Florida. She was hooked.

"Ever since I started in gymnastics, the '88 Olympics were a goal for me," Brandy said. "Some people thought I should wait until 1992, but I wanted to compete in '88."


USA

Brandy hung onto that goal and went to Seoul as the fourth-ranked member of the U. S. gymnastics team.

Brandy told *Game Player's Sports for Kids* that competing in the Olympics was incredible. "Really, words couldn't describe how I felt — looking around and seeing the best gymnasts in the world right next to you. It was just incredible."

Brandy's performance was incredible, too. She was the highest all-around finisher, among U.S. men or women. And she placed fifth in the vault finals, less than .05 points away from a bronze medal.

Now, at 16, Brandy can count herself as one of the best gymnasts in the world. This year, she has won the U. S. National Championships, the McDonald's Challenge: USA-USSR, the International Tournament of Champions, and the McDonald's American Cup.

Being national champion doesn't leave much free time for fun. Brandy said she practices six days

All Photographs Copyright© Dave Black 1989

a week, seven to eight hours a day.

Between practice sessions, Brandy does her school work — she takes correspondence courses instead of going to a regular high school. Brandy said she doesn't miss being in a high school. "Other than that, I'm pretty normal," she said. Like other 16-year-olds, Brandy spends her free time at the mall, at the movies, and with her boyfriend.

Brandy said she hopes to compete in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain. After that, she wants to go to college.

"I think the field is wide open," Brandy said. "I'm just taking it one day at a time."

GP

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SPORTS NEWS

MASCOT MANIA

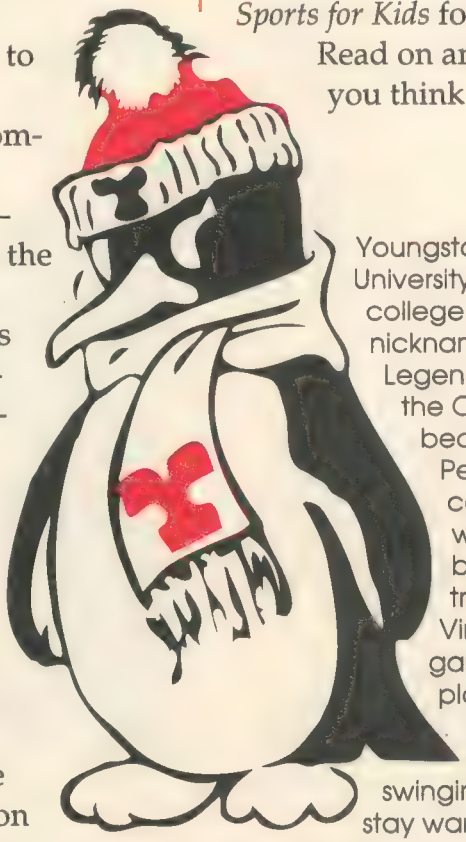
Have you ever wondered where schools come up with nicknames for their athletic teams?

From the Apaches of Cochise College in Douglas, Arizona, to the Vikings of Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, New York — college teams take the names of famous warriors and tribes into battle on football fields and basketball courts.

But some colleges get the nicknames for their teams from things as common as shoes and city streets.

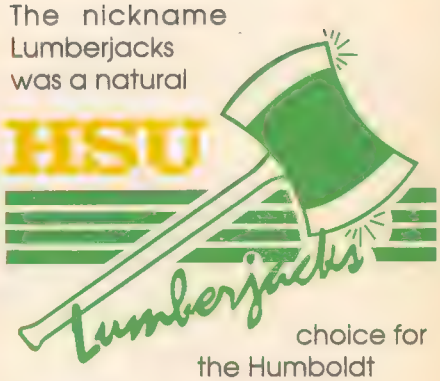
The Zips of the University of Akron got their start as the Zippers — named after a pair of rubber shoes. And the Gorloks of Webster University took the name of their mascot from Gore and Lockwood Avenues — major streets in the city the school calls home.

Here are some of the college nicknames *Game Player's Sports for Kids* found unusual. Read on and see what you think.



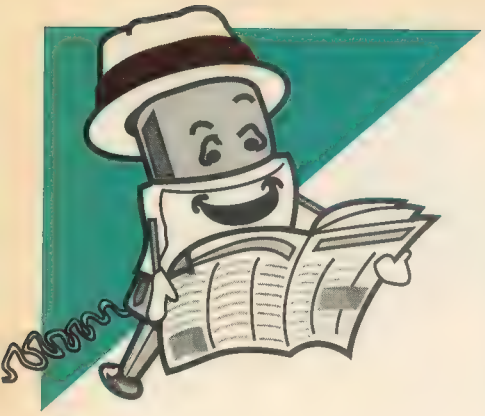
Youngstown State University is the only college that has the nickname "Penguins." Legend has it that the Ohio school became the Penguins on a cold winter night when its basketball team traveled to West Virginia for a game. The players, stomping around on the floor and swinging their arms to stay warm before the game, looked like a bunch of penguins. Pete the Penguin, the official mascot, was joined by the lovely Penny Penguin in 1985.

The nickname Lumberjacks was a natural



choice for the Humboldt State University athletic department. The Arcata, California, campus sits in the heart of the Northern California redwood forests. The top local industry is lumber. The nickname was picked, by student vote, in 1936.

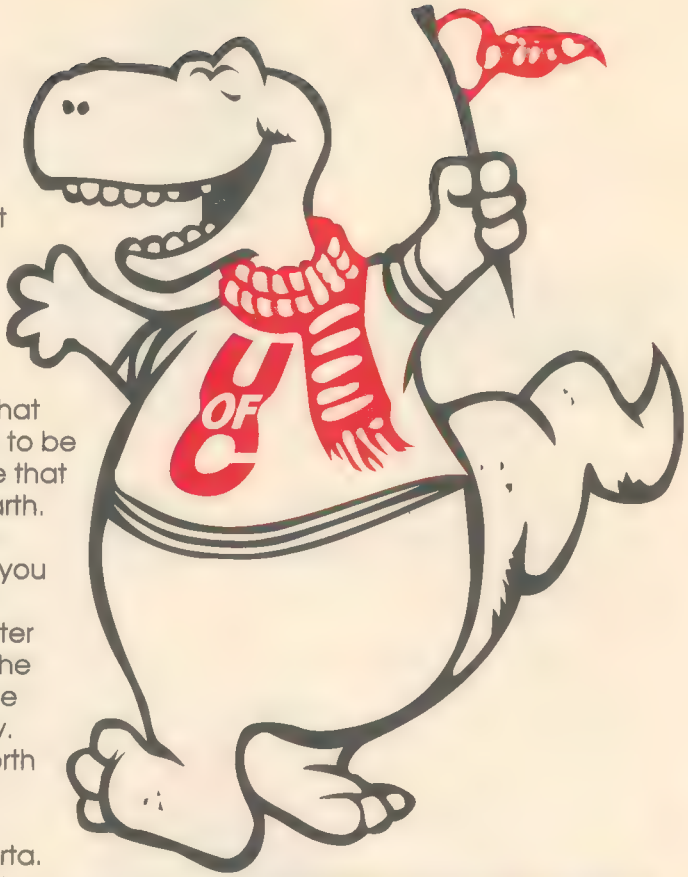
In 1920, a group of young men from Pittsburg State University got together and called themselves the Gorillas. They wanted to improve the school spirit at the Pittsburg, Kansas, college. Today, Gus and Gussie Gorilla are symbols of strength and power at Gorilla games.



Only Webster University in Saint Louis, Missouri, has a Gorlok as a mascot. The Gorlok is a mythical beast believed to have powers greater than those of any human being or animal. The mascot and name were chosen in 1984 when the university began its athletic program.

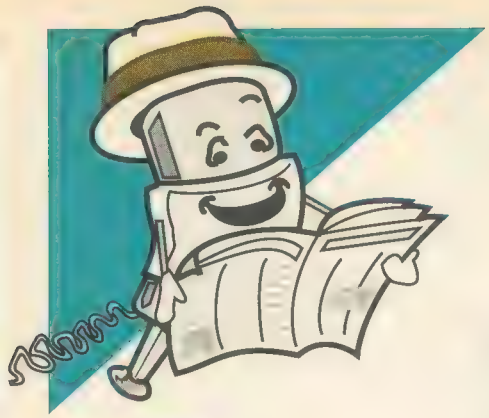
Campbell University's Fighting Camel mascot can be seen at almost all of the North Carolina school's games. The Camel's appearance brings a little cheer, makes people smile, and reminds fans that athletic contests don't have to be a matter of life or death.

If you knew about all the big animals of the past and could choose the one you would least like to meet today, you would probably choose the dinosaur Tyrannosaurus rex, the "tyrant lizard." That dinosaur is believed to be the fiercest creature that ever walked the earth. Today, if you could choose a dinosaur you would like to meet, you might pick Dexter Dinosaur. Dexter is the official mascot of the University of Calgary.

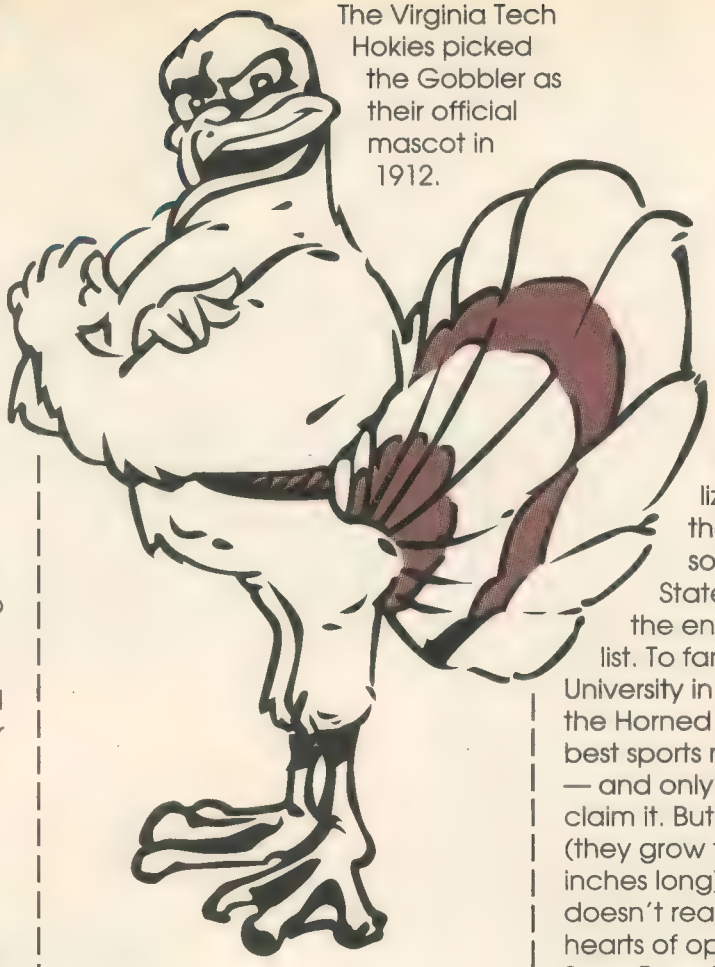


Calgary lies north of Montana in the Canadian province of Alberta. Just 80 miles away from the school, dinosaur bones were discovered and a research center was established. When the University of Calgary was started 25 years ago, they adopted the nickname Dinosaurs.

The University of Delaware's athletic teams have a nickname that stretches over 200 years of history. According to legend, the Fightin' Blue Hens got their start at the time of the Revolutionary War. A Delaware military battalion named "Blue Hens' Chickens" earned a reputation for fighting success and a place in Delaware history. Today, the school proudly carries on the long tradition of the Fightin' Blue Hens.



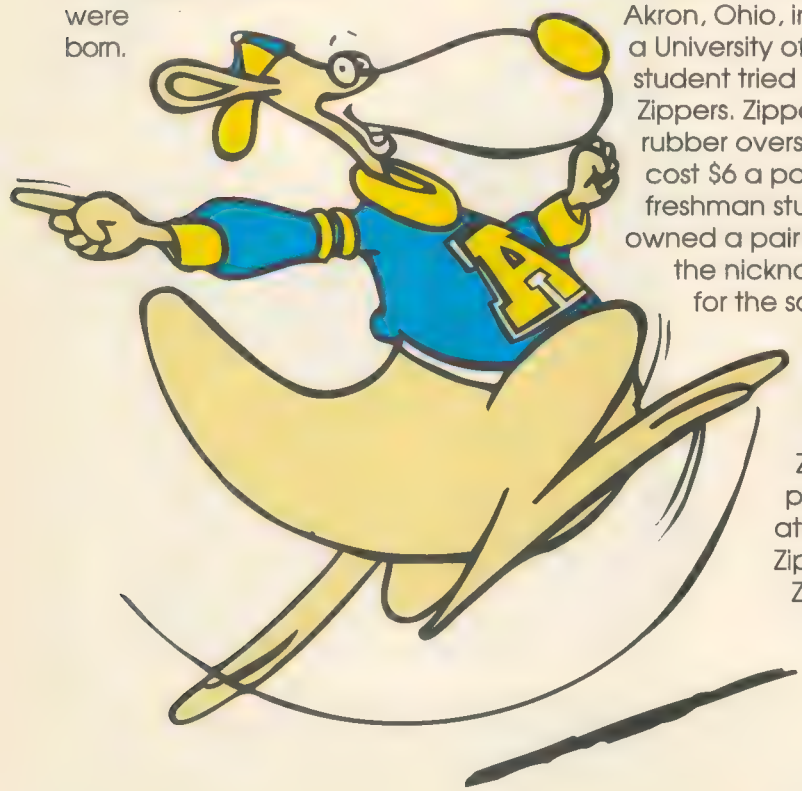
The Virginia Tech Hokies picked the Gobbler as their official mascot in 1912.



The University of Minnesota's nickname dates all the way back to 1857 when Minnesota was named the "Gopher State." In the early 1930's, Minnesota's football teams became national champions and changed their jerseys to a golden color — and the Golden Gophers were born.

To scientists, a horned toad is a lizard-like creature that lives in the southwestern United States. The toad is also on the endangered species list. To fans of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, the Horned Frogs is one of the best sports nicknames anywhere — and only their school can claim it. But a live horned frog (they grow to be about six inches long) on the sidelines doesn't really strike fear into the hearts of opponents. Enter SuperFrog, the school's costumed mascot. SuperFrog has been around since 1979, giving fans at games a mascot to laugh with, not to laugh at.

The Zips got their start in Akron, Ohio, in 1925 when a University of Akron student tried on a pair of Zippers. Zippers were rubber overshoes that cost $6 a pair. The freshman student who owned a pair suggested the nickname Zippers for the school — it stuck. The Zippers were shortened to Zips in 1950. Zippy is a popular attraction at Zips and Lady Zips games.



GP

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All right, I admit it. I get excited about the return of baseball. I follow the results during spring training. I make a few phone calls about season tickets, hoping that somehow they're on sale for 70 percent off. And I watch the season opener and home opener as if each was the seventh game of the World Series.

PC PLAYERS

Take Me Out To The Videogame

Neil Randall

One more confession. When spring training begins, I find myself searching for my computer baseball games. I play Accolade's *Hardball* while watching a game on TV. I look to Gamestar's *Pete Rose Pennant Fever* when I want to test my skills at building a franchise. Mondays, with the sports pages in front of me, I boot up Electronic Arts' *Earl Weaver Baseball*, change some statistics, and play the games my favorite team will be playing that week.

Why do I have three baseball simulations? Because each one has its own particular focus. *Hardball* is purely an action game, with an emphasis on the classic confrontation between pitcher and batter. *Pete Rose Pennant Fever* is a franchise-building game, in which you have ten seasons to assemble a championship team. *Earl Weaver Baseball* focuses on managing the individual game; all of its many features are designed with that in mind.

Hardball

In *Hardball*, the screen you see most often shows your pitcher (either left-handed or right-handed) preparing to throw to the plate. It's the classic viewpoint of televised baseball, as seen from somewhere in left-center field.

The menus at the bottom of the *Hardball* screen show your options. Using the keyboard, joystick, or mouse, you select the pitch you wish to throw. If you're batting, you choose to bunt, steal, or swing away.

Once the defensive player has selected the pitch, and the offensive player the batting option, the menus change. Now the pitcher chooses a location for the pitch, while the batter selects whether he will swing high, low, inside, or outside. When you're batting against a human opponent, the catcher's glove moves as a signal to where the pitch might be going. When playing against the computer, you're at a distinct disadvantage — the glove does not

1 *Hardball!* The pitcher-batter screen.

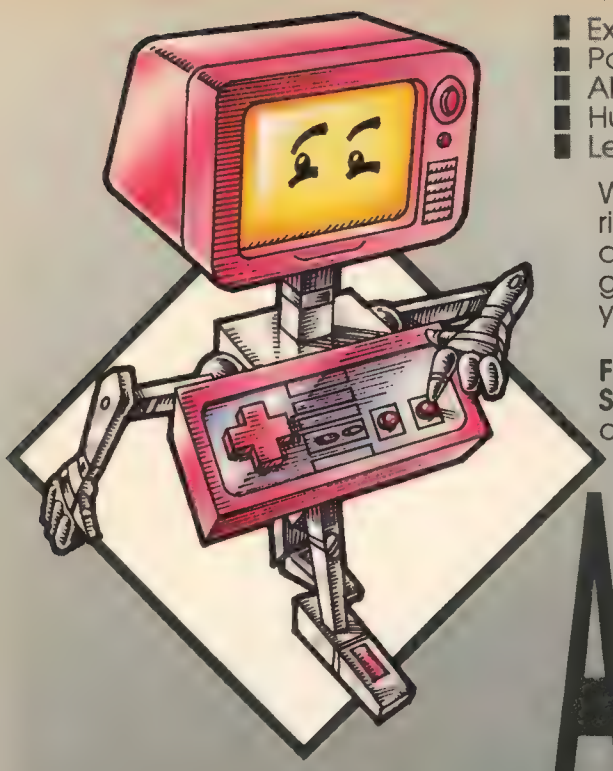
2 *Hardball!* Fielding a batted ball.

3 *Pete Rose:* The main view from behind home plate.

4 *Pete Rose:* The pitcher-batter screen.

5 *Pete Rose:* Selecting Pete Rose's position.

DON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE OF THE HOTTEST NEW MAGAZINE IN VIDEO AND COMPUTER GAMES!



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NINTENDO REVIEWS

TECMO BOWL

William R. Trotter

Sports games for Nintendo machines are multiplying almost as fast as ninja games. If you're a fan of sports games, you may find it hard to keep track of what's good, what's new, and what's hot. *Tecmo Bowl* is all three — and is well worth the attention of football fans of all ages.

Perhaps the most novel feature of *Tecmo Bowl* is that it simulates the various strengths and specialties of real-life NFL teams. An NFL team with exceptional passing, defense, or kicking has those same strengths in *Tecmo Bowl*. This gives football fans the feeling of actually being able to coach or quarterback their favorite teams.

Tecmo has come up with a very playable system of scrimmage. Before each play, you can choose from four different strategies shown on the screen. Then, by manipulating an on-screen cursor, you can run the play. By using various button combinations, you can also make some quite realistic moves. For instance, you can make a diving tackle or stiff-arm a blocker who gets in your way.

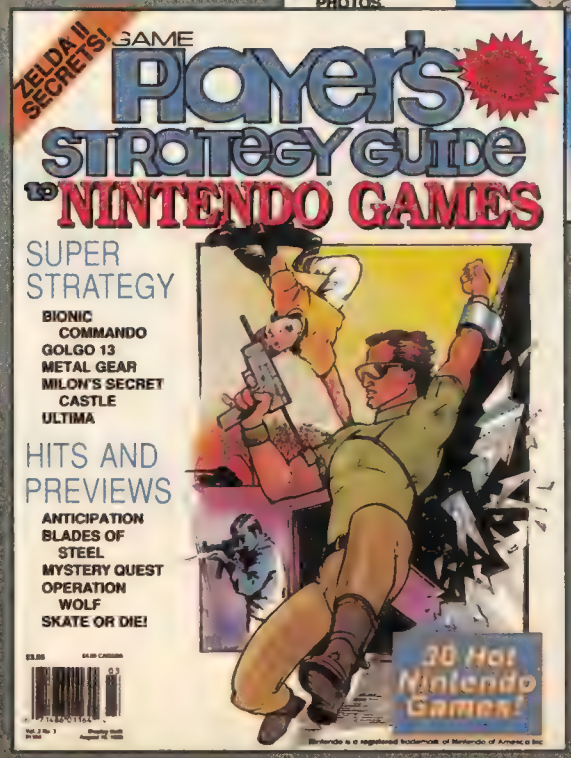
Tecmo Bowl has some other interesting details, too. It has a very impressive synthesized voice that emits clear, convincing signals from the quarterback, and lusty cheers from the crowd when-ever someone scores. After a touchdown, the animated players leap into the air joyfully, slapping their palms together.

There's one aspect of the game which departs from reality, but few football fans will complain. These animated gridiron warriors smash into each other with more bone-crunching power than real-life players could ever withstand. When the two teams slam together, little video bodies fly through the air, and the synthesized voice groans and moans.

Tecmo Bowl is a solid achievement. It successfully mimics real football, filling the screen with noise, color, and action. Because of the way it simulates real teams, it provides considerable room for strategy. This is one of those (still comparatively rare) Nintendo cartridges that parents and kids can enjoy equally

To make a strong kick, wait for the punk bar to go as far left as possible

The dotted line shows how far to go for your next first down.



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Have you always wondered what kind of plays make your favorite National Football League player stand out? When he was drafted by the NFL? Where he went to college?

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For the first time, official NFL trading cards are available — packed full of information and official statistics from the NFL library.

The front of each card features NFL players in action. The backs of the cards have closeup photos of the players, without helmets.

There are over 500 NFL ProSet cards available today, and more than 400 of them

THE OFFICIAL NFL CARD
BO JACKSON
RUNNING BACK
Born: Bessemer, Ala.
Birthdate: 11/30/62
Height: 6-1
Weight: 230
College: Auburn
NFL Exp: 3rd year
Drafted 7th round, '87
Los Angeles Raiders
One of a kind. . .Plays baseball for Kansas City Royals in summer and football for Raiders in fall. . . After only 17 games has highest career rushing average in Raiders' history. . .Most memorable performance came in rookie season when he rushed for 221 yards and scored three times—once on 91-yard run—in Monday night win over Seattle. . .Was first choice of 1986 NFL draft when taken by Tampa Bay, but opted for baseball career. . .Drafted by Raiders on seventh round in 1987. . .One of three current Raiders who have won Heisman Trophy (Marcus Allen and Tim Brown are others).
185
PRO SET
Official Photo and Stat Card of the NFL
SUPER BOWL XIX
PRO SET NFL COLLECTIBLE
THE OFFICIAL NFL CARD
BILL PARCELLS
HEAD COACH
Born: Englewood, N.J.
Birthdate: 8/22/41
College: Wichita State
NFL Experience
Head Coach: 7th year
Player: None
New York Giants
Led Giants to their only Super Bowl win and won league coach of year honors in 1986. . .Has 57 career wins (including playoffs) since taking over as coach in 1983. . .Only Pro Football Hall of Fame member Steve Owen (151 wins in 23-year career) posted more wins as Giants' coach. . .Assistant coach with Patriots and Giants before becoming New York's head coach. . .All-conference selection as linebacker at Wichita State. . .Drafted by Detroit Lions, but instead went into coaching.
1989 National Football League.
PRO SET
293
Official Photo and Stat Card of the NFL.

feature players— like Bo Jackson of the Los Angeles Raiders and Mike Singletary of the Chicago Bears — and NFL coaches, like New York Giants coach Bill Parcells.

The rest of the cards are called "collectable" cards. Thirty of the collectables are radio and TV announcer cards, with pictures and information about game callers like Bob Costas and Merlin Olsen. Other collectables have team logos and stories from the first 23 Super Bowls.

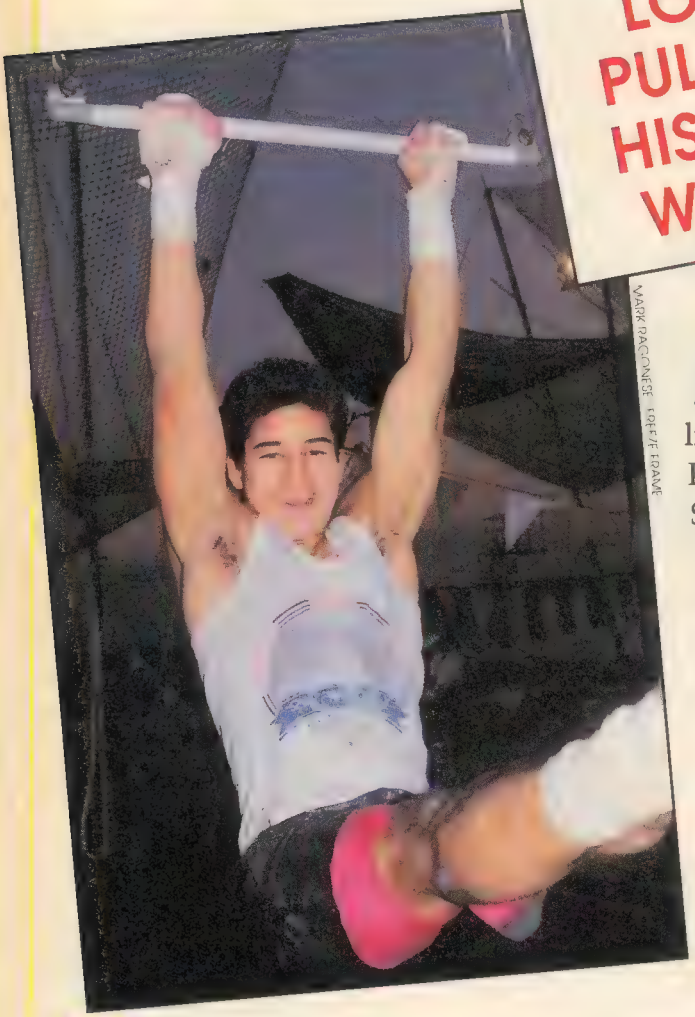
The ProSet cards are sold in packs of 15, with 14 player and/or coach cards and one collectable card in each set.

Each pack also has a playbook. Special "scratch-off" boxes in the playbook offer chances to win prizes. You can win a piece of NFL history — Jerry Rice's jersey or Randall Cunningham's helmet — or a trip to the Pro Bowl in Hawaii. Or collect scratched-off points and send them in for NFL merchandise.

The playbook also offers the *ProSet Gazette*. The magazine has a checklist of all the player cards available in the ProSet collection, along with a catalog of official NFL merchandise.

GP

MARIO LOPEZ: PULLING HIS OWN WEIGHT



MARK RACCINESE - FREEZE FRAME

Mario said he loves heights. He practiced in the morning and at night for three months to prepare for his trapeze act in *Circus of the Stars.*

At 17, Mario Lopez is living his dream. He stars as "A.C. Slater" on NBC's *Saved By the Bell,* but his friends at school know him more as a wrestler than as an actor.

"I come from a big wrestling family. I've been wrestling since I was seven," Mario said. "We taped the first episode of *Saved By the Bell* the same day I was supposed to take part in the state wrestling championships," Mario said. "I had to miss the championships this year."

Mario lives with his family in San Diego, where he wrestles for his high school team and for a free-style club. To be invited to the state wrestling championships, Mario had to win the local San Diego and Los Angeles championships several years in a row. Mario was also the first freshman in his high school to receive a varsity trophy.

As if wrestling and acting weren't enough to keep him busy, this summer Mario learned to fly on the trapeze for *Circus of the Stars.*

"I practiced for three months to perform the trapeze act, and my schedule was crazy. Every morning I

RISING STARS

MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

Mario won the San Diego and the Los Angeles wrestling championships from the 1981 season through the 1984 season. He wrestles in the 145 pound weight class.

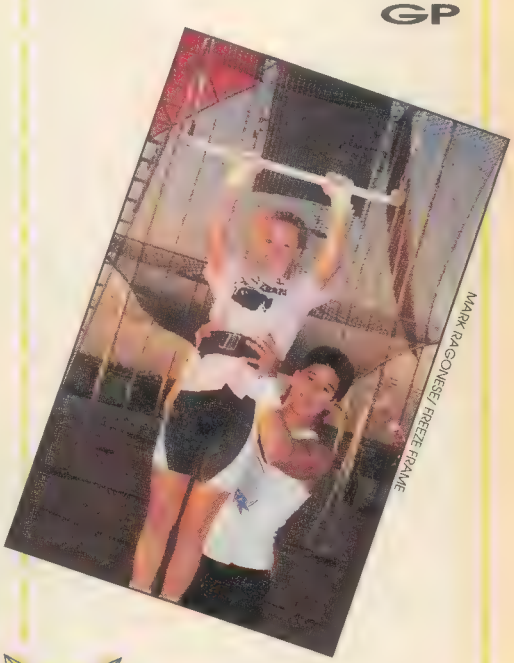
had to practice on the trapeze for an hour. Then I went to rehearsal for *Saved By the Bell* for eight hours. Every evening I had to go back to Universal Studios for another trapeze workout," Mario said.

He liked the trapeze because of the excitement and the chance to fly through the air. "I love heights. I had a lot of fun. Working on the trapeze act helped me to keep in shape for my wrestling."

Mario, who plans to go to college, said he already has opportunities to wrestle for Iowa or Oklahoma universities on scholarships. He said he may even get to try out for the Olympics.

Although wrestling is an important part of Mario Lopez's life, his acting career, a life-long dream, still comes first.

GP



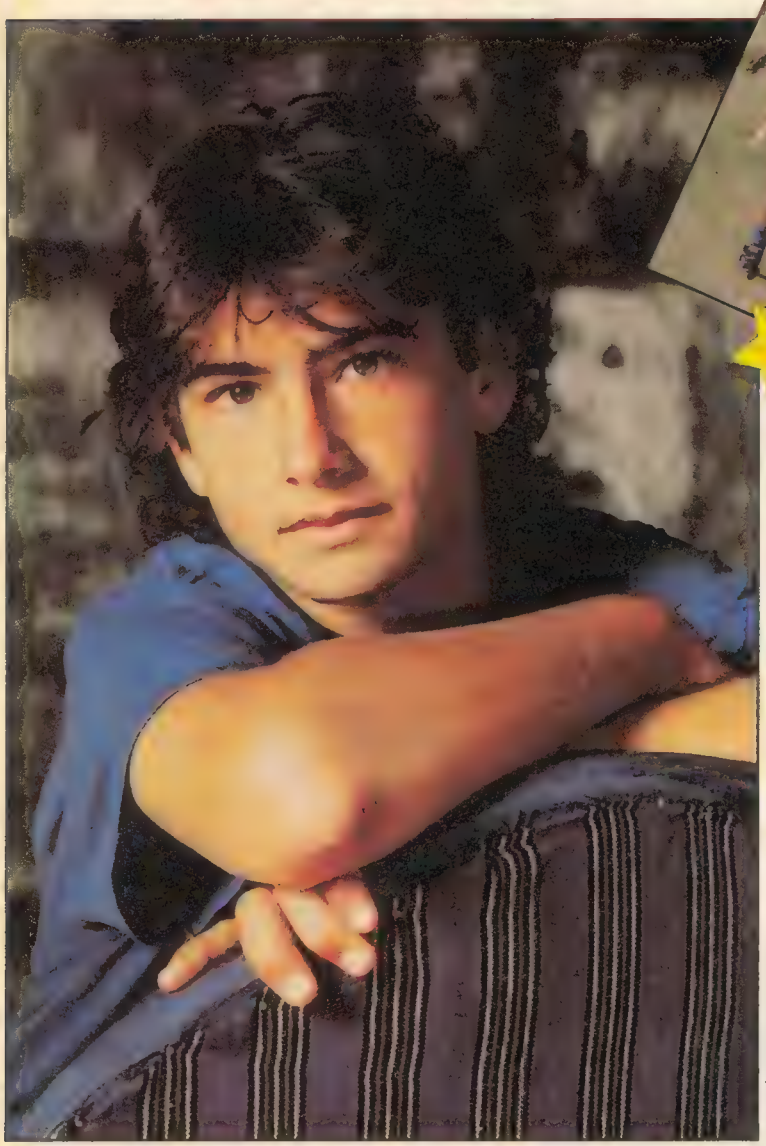
MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

Maureen Flanningan, star of *Out of This World* learned the trapeze with Mario.

Coach Armando Farfan of *Circus of the Stars* wraps Mario's hands for practice.

GETTING A KICK OUT OF LIFE



WAYNE SHIMABUKURO/VISAGES

MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

Newmark says he likes playing soccer because it is a team sport.

Matthew Newmark

This rising star shines on soccer fields around the world. Matthew Newmark plays on a club soccer team that represents Manhattan Beach, California.

When he's not playing soccer, the 13-year-old Newmark plays the adopted son of a gunfighter on the CBS television series *Paradise*.

To be an actor in the TV western, Newmark had to learn how to rope steer and ride a horse. Like his character, Newmark enjoys horseback riding, but he'd rather be playing soccer.

RISING STARS

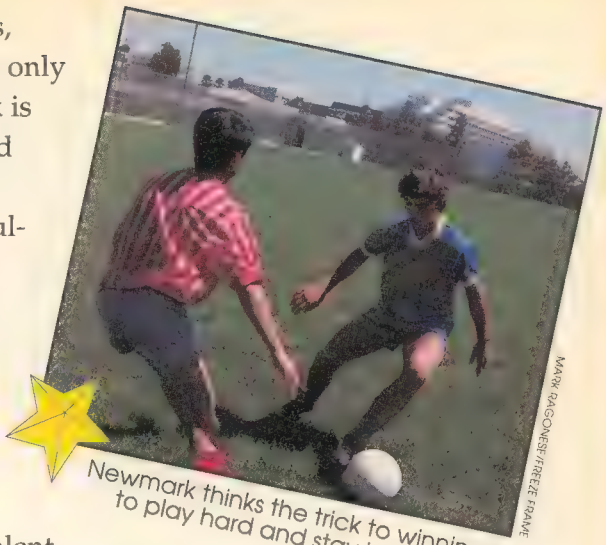
Newmark has been playing soccer for eight years. His team recently entered a tournament in Europe, playing games in Denmark and Sweden. "It was the second largest soccer tournament in the world," Newmark said. "Our team took 11th place out of 56 (teams). In Denmark, we were coached by World Cup players."

Newmark has also traveled throughout the United States with his soccer team. He usually plays halfback or forward.

Even though many of his tournaments are played in front of large crowds, Newmark concentrates only on the game. "The trick is to always play hard and stay in shape," he said.

With careful scheduling, Newmark's soccer does not interfere with his acting career.

"When I was seven, my mother noticed I could imitate a lot of people," Newmark explained. This talent has gotten him a number of acting jobs, including a four-year part on CBS's *Knot's Landing*.


MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

Newmark thinks the trick to winning is to play hard and stay in shape.

Both as an athlete and as an actor, Newmark understands that it takes hard work and dedication to be a winner. "You have to learn from your experiences," he said.

GP

MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

Newmark goes over a play with his coach, Dan Olsen, and teammates Visith Nguon (in the red shirt) and Brett Wilson (in black).

MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

Newmark plays for the Manhattan Beach Hurricanes—a team made up of boys under the age of 15.

RISING STARS

BABE RUTH

How much do *you* know about the famous Babe Ruth? Try your hand at these baseball bafflers.

1. What is Babe Ruth's real name?
2. Whose record did Babe break when he hit 60 home runs in 1927?
3. What was known as "The House That Babe Built?"
4. What was the Babe's most famous nickname?
5. What name did the Babe give to his 44-ounce baseball bat?
6. What team was Babe Ruth on during his first major league game?
7. What position did Ruth play when he started his first game as a professional?
8. Where was Ruth born?
9. How many times did Ruth hit two or more home runs in a game?
10. At what position did Ruth spend most of his career playing?

The Babe launched his career as a player for one of the Yankees' biggest rivals — the Red Sox.

NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY

A common sight: Ruth acknowledging the crowd after hitting a home run. During his career, Ruth hit a total of 714 homers.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

ANSWERS

1. George Herman Ruth
2. His own
3. Yankee Stadium–Ruth slammed a three-run homer on Yankee Stadium's opening day.
4. "The Sultan of Swat"
5. Black Betsy
6. The Boston Red Sox
7. Pitcher
8. Baltimore, Maryland
9. 72
10. Right Field

MR. BELVEDERE GOES TO THE BALLPARK

MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

Meet the *Mr. Belvedere* gang. From left to right, starting with the back row, they are: Harmon Killebrew, Reggie Jackson, Bob Uecker, Mr. Belvedere (Christopher Hewitt), Rob Stone, Johnny Bench, and Willie Mays. On the front row are: Ernie Banks, Robert Goulet, Wesley (Brice Beckham), Mickey Mantle, and Henry Aaron.

Little League baseball's 50th anniversary was recently celebrated on the popular television show, *Mr. Belvedere*. Some of baseball's all-time greatest players came out to appear on the program with their friend and ex-big leaguer, Bob Uecker.

Joining Uecker on the show were Hall of Famers Hank Aaron, Ernie Banks, Johnny Bench, Mickey Mantle, and Willie Mays. Future Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson also appeared on the program to honor Little League. These superstars have hit a total of 4,002 home runs!

"I enjoy working in front of the camera," said Bench, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame this year. "This was a great opportunity to work with the guys. Uecker is one of the few guys I have ever known who is always funny."

Before becoming a successful actor and TV funnyman, Uecker played professional baseball. He was never very good. In fact, he has made a career of making fun of how bad he was. Uecker also makes television commercials and announces Milwaukee Brewer baseball games.

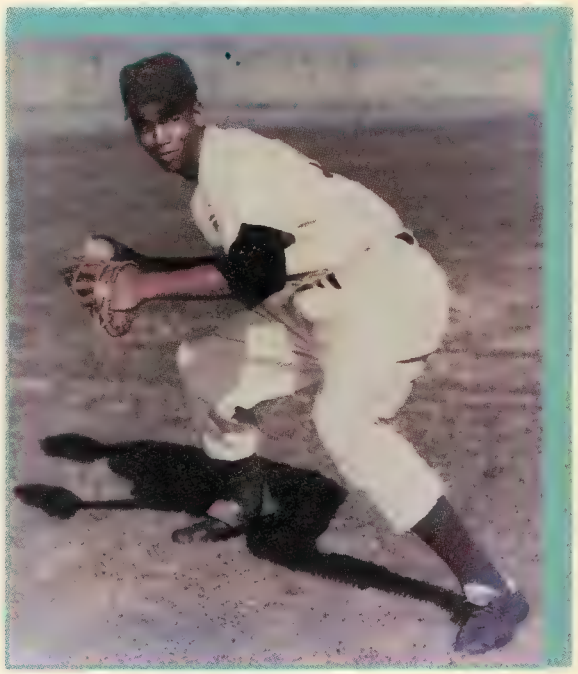
Mickey Mantle, the great Yankee slugger of the 1950's and 60's, said he'll never forget seeing Uecker for the first time. "I remember him because he carried his catcher's mitt in the back pocket of his uniform," he said. "I had never seen anyone

MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

13-year-old Brice Beckham, who plays Wesley on the TV show, and Willie Mays head for batting practice.

EACH OF THESE PLAYERS APPEARED ON *MR. BELVEDERE*. SEE IF YOU CAN NAME THEM USING THE GROUP PHOTO ON PAGE 58 AS A REFERENCE.

1 _____



2 _____

do that before."

Ernie Banks, an All-Star shortstop for the Cubs, said he couldn't refuse the offer to appear on Uecker's show. "Bob is the type of guy we all love," the two-time Most Valuable Player said. "We all look to Uecker for acting lessons."

Uecker said the big leaguers did a great job. "I'm really happy with this episode," he said. "I've known these guys for 25 years. To be here with these living baseball legends is a tremendous thrill."

Hank Aaron is of course known for knocking more balls out of the park than any other major league player — 755 in all! Johnny Bench gained fame both at the plate and behind it. He played catcher for the World Series champion Cincinnati Reds.

Reggie Jackson played for the Oakland A's and the New York Yankees. He was known as "Mr. October" because he played best when pennants and titles are decided — during the month of October.

Willie "Say Hey Kid" Mays also appeared on the show. Mays led the National League in home runs for two years and is known as one of the best center fielders of all time.

(game continues on page 60)

3

_____

_____

4

_____

5

_____

_____

6

_____

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS/ NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY

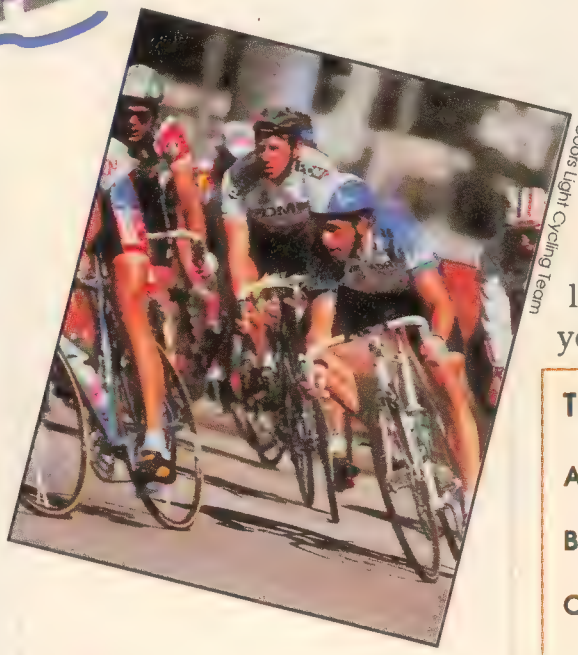
THE ANSWERS

1. Reggie Jackson 2. Ernie Banks 3. Willie Mays
4. Johnny Bench 5. Hank Aaron 6. Mickey Mantle

FAMOUS FIRSTS

Can you match the name of the famous athletes listed here with their record-setting firsts?

Answers appear upside down at the bottom of the page.


Coors Light Cycling Team

THE FAMOUS FIRSTS

1. Who was the first tennis player to earn more than $10 million in tournament play?

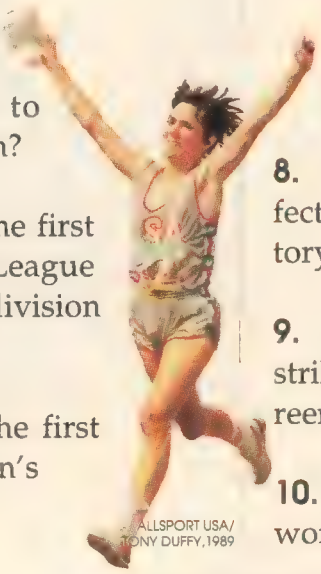
2. Who was the first female jockey to win a race in North America?

3. Who was the winner of the first Boston Marathon?

4. Who was the first black tennis player to win Wimbledon?

5. What was the first U.S. Football League team to win a division crown?

6. Who won the first Olympic women's marathon?


ALLSPORT USA/ TONY DUFFY, 1989

7. Who was the first American to win the Tour de France bicycle race?

8. Who received the first perfect score of 10 in Olympic history?

9. Who was the first player to strike out 2,000 times in a career?

10. What was the name of the world's first soccer team?

11. Who was the first major leaguer to earn $100,000 in a year?

THE ATHLETES

A. JOAN BENOIT _____

B. NADIA COMANECI _____

C. JOE DiMAGGIO _____

D. ALTHEA GIBSON _____

E. REGGIE JACKSON _____

F. GREG LeMOND _____

G. JOHN McDERMOTT _____

H. MARTINA NAVRATILOVA _____

I. PHILADELPHIA STARS _____

J. BARBARA JO RUBIN _____

K. SHEFFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB _____

THE ANSWERS

1.H 2.J 3.G 4.D 5.I 6.A
7.F 8.B 9.E 10.K 11.C

RAD HOT!

THE TALLER THEY ARE THE HARDER THEY FALL

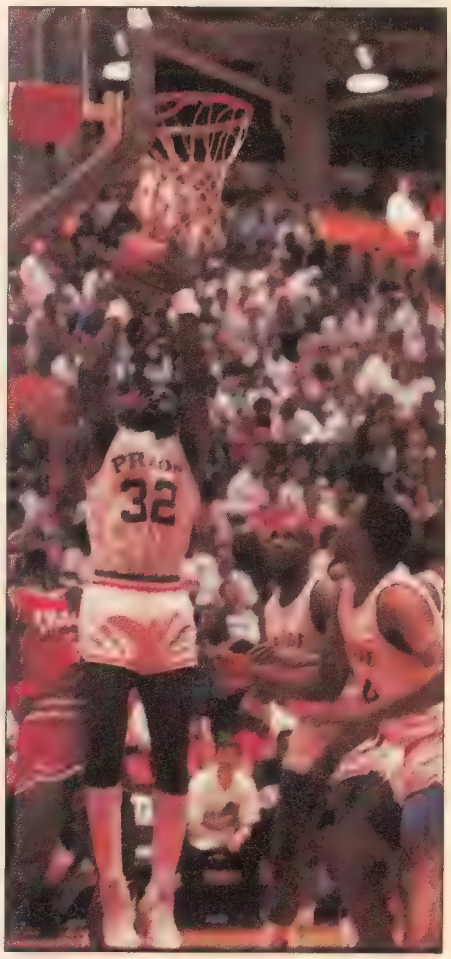
There is one professional basketball league that Michael Jordan could not play in — the World Basketball League. Why? Because he's 6'6" tall. The WBL is for shorter guys. Every player in this league is under 6'5".

"The WBL is the second best basketball league in the world," said WBL All-Star Willie Bland. The best is, of course, the National Basketball Association. "But that's O.K.," Bland said, "because the nation will slowly learn more and more about us. We're the up and coming basketball league."

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN

Against the Netherlands this year, Eric Newsome was perfect. He made 12 of 12 shots and 5 of 5 three-pointers. At 5'8", Newsome is one foot shorter than the average NBA player.

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN



Kenny Natt is the oldest player in the league. His jersey number matches his age — 32. But just look at him sky!

RAD HOT!

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN

Driving the lane for two, #1 Andre Turner shows off his quickness.

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN

Willie Bland's idol is Dr. J — Julius Erving. His game is also a lot like Michael Jordan's. "I'm a jumper and a leaper," he said.

Bland, who is 6'3", plays for the Youngstown (Ohio) Pride. The Pride won the league's second annual championship, which was played in August. Bland says playing in the WBL has given him the chance to do it all — bring the ball down the court, take jump shots, and make inside moves.

Jim Thomas, who played last season for the Calgary 88's, said he likes playing in the WBL because of its pace. "The fans love the fast action," said the 6'4" forward, "and I like it because players get to score more points."

Before going to Calgary, which is in Canada, Thomas played for the NBA Indiana Pacers. He liked the idea of playing in a league for shorter players. "Playing smaller, quicker guys gives you a chance to develop your all-around abilities," he said.

Surprisingly, the league's five teams had a record of 10-0 against a much larger Soviet team this year. The big reason was speed. "We have the fastest players in the world," Bland said. "The Soviets are big and brutal, but they are also slow. By the time they got set, we had the ball and were headed the other way."

WBL teams are so fast, they beat larger squads from around the world 49 times last season. They lost only once.

RAD HOT!

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN

Ex-Philadelphia 76er David Henderson thought he'd try out the WBL. He became the Calgary 88's leading scorer and rebounder.

The opposing teams came from the Soviet Union, Greece, Norway, the Netherlands, and Finland.

The teams that competed in the WBL last season were Bland's Pride, the Worcester Counts, the Las Vegas Silver Streaks, the Calgary 88's, and the Illinois Express. The shorter guys' league hopes to add nine more teams in the next few seasons.

GP

ROBERT A. NEAPOLITAN

Jim Thomas is a gifted athlete. He was drafted by the Indiana Pacers and the Green Bay Packers.

COURTESY CALGARY 88'S

Former Louisiana State University star Derrick Taylor drives around a much bigger Italian opponent. Italy was the only international squad to defeat a WBL team.

RAD

HOT!

SKATEBOARDS TO GO!

At Vans Skatepark, skating and safety go hand in hand

MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

Travis Denker is a four-year-old who's been skateboarding since he was two. He never skates without his pads and helmet.

Four-year-old skateboarder Travis Denker never thinks about getting hurt when he's rolling along. But he always wears his knee pads, helmet, and gloves just the same.

"If you think about getting hurt," says Travis, "that will have a negative effect on your skating." And since he's wearing his safety equipment, Travis knows that he's safer.

Travis is the youngest member of the Pee-Wee Team at Vans Skatepark in Orange, California. He began skateboarding when he was only two years old.

At Vans, skateboarders of all ages come to practice and to learn. Professional skateboarders like 19-year-old Scott Oster compete in tournaments around the world. Scott has been skating since he was six.

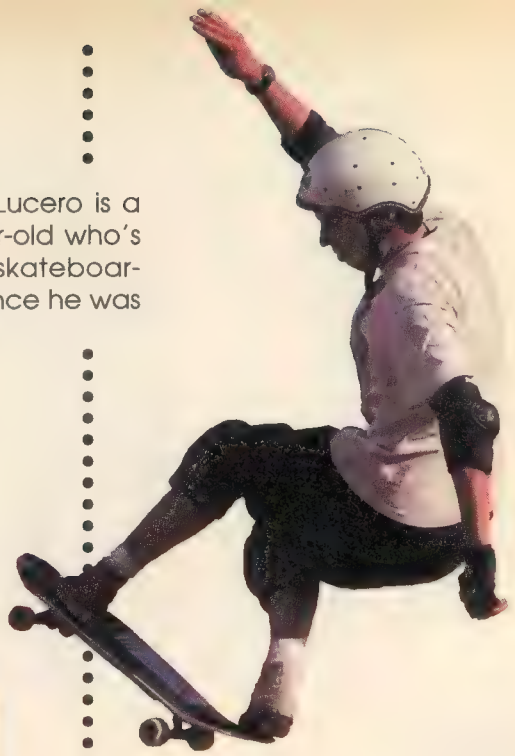
"My parents bought me my first skateboard for my birthday," Scott says. "Skateboarding is a way of life. It's something I do just about every day."

After Scott received his first skateboard, he practiced

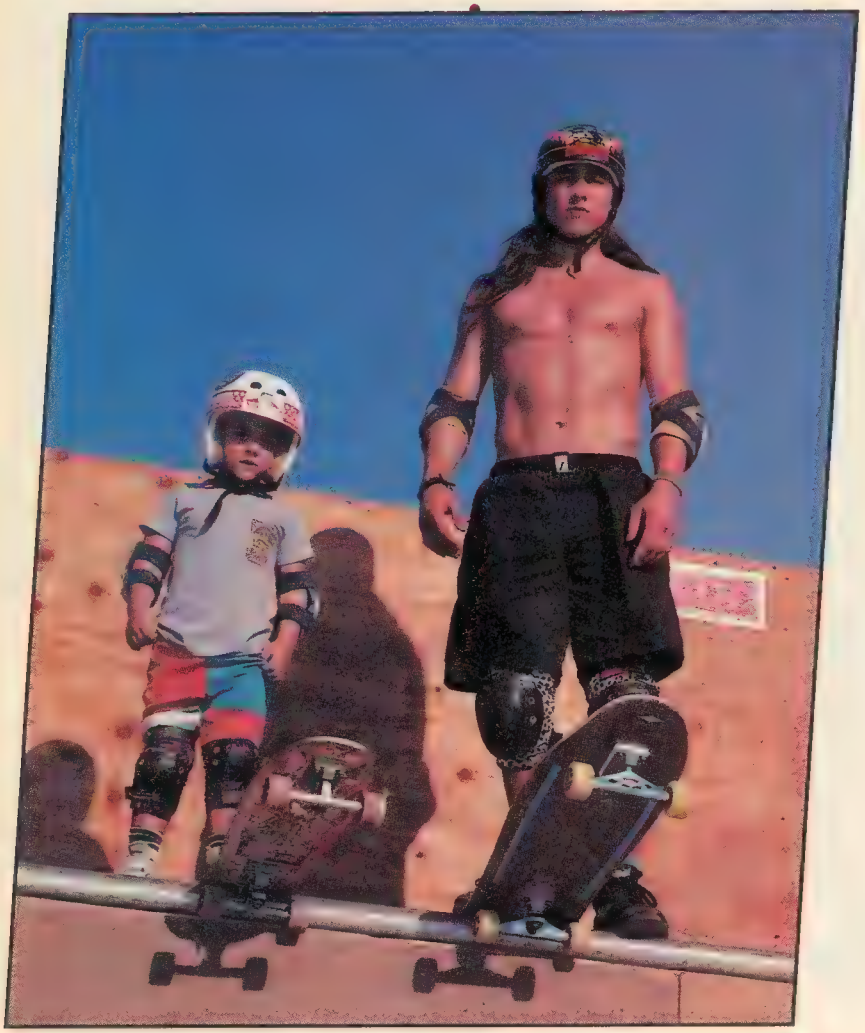
MARK RAGONESE/ FREEZE FRAME

There's plenty of action at Vans Skatepark in Orange, California, as Jeff Grosso shows at the top of this ramp.

RAD HOT!



John Lucero is a 25-year-old who's been skateboarding since he was 11.



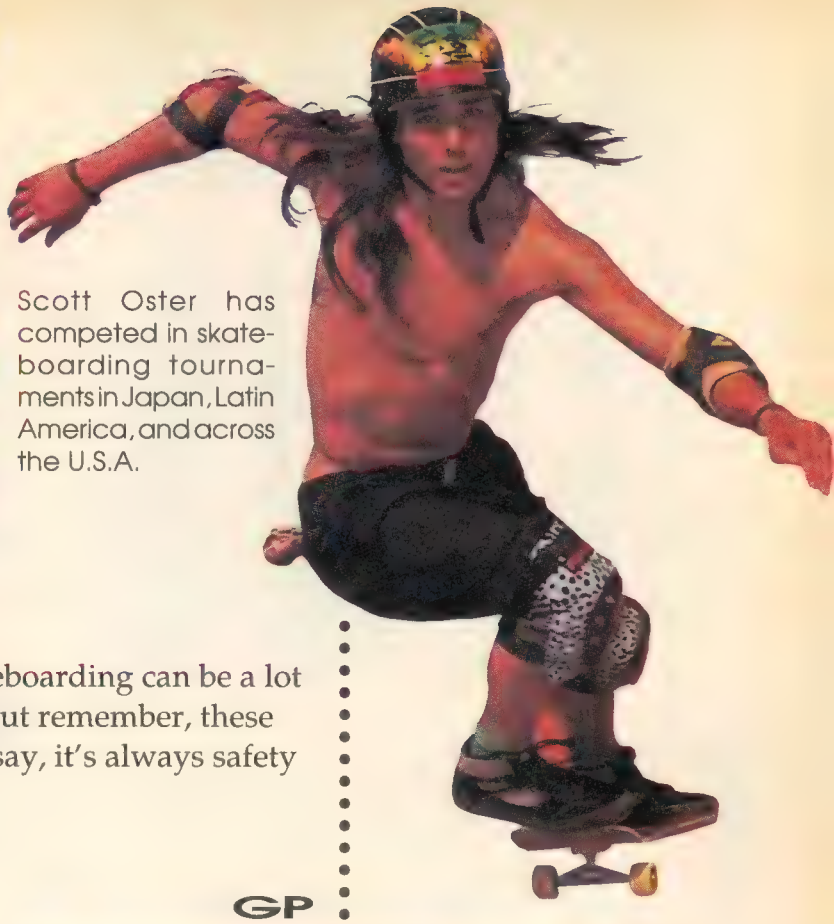
Travis Denker and Scott Oster get ready to roll on this vertical ramp.

until he got better and better. He became so good that now skateboard companies sponsor him. They pay his way to skateboarding contests like the one in Japan he recently competed in. Scott travels throughout the United States with his skateboard, and plans are under way for him to compete in Europe.

There are several kinds of skateboarding competition — street-style, vertical skateboarding, speed skating, downhill racing, and free-style. Scott especially likes street-style. "I do a lot of tricks on mini-ramps. I made up a trick called the Tuck Nee G Turn where you grab the rail of the board and go around in a circle."

Like many pro skateboarders, Scott has designed

RAD HOT!



Scott Oster has competed in skateboarding tournaments in Japan, Latin America, and across the U.S.A.

his own skateboard. It has a double wheel-base and is 31 inches long. And, like Travis, Scott wears a complete set of safety equipment whenever he skates. "The safety equipment is very important, and should be worn by amateurs at all times," Scott says.

Scott's friend, 25-year-old John Lucero, is also a professional skateboarder. "Vertical is my favorite type of skating," he says. "It involves big pools and ramps. Some guys get up to 12 feet in the air off of a vertical ramp."

"Street skating is what's popular because it's what's available to most kids," he adds. "Free-style is more of an artistic type of skating, and downhill is racing as fast as you can down a hill."

"The best way to learn about skateboarding is to try it for yourself and experiment through trial and error," says John.

Skateboarding can be a lot of fun. But remember, these experts say, it's always safety first.

GP

Brothers Jesse and John Roach love skateboarding. Jesse, on the left, is one of the top skateboarders in the world for kids age 11.

RAD HOT!

SUPER-FAST CARS HIT THE STREETS

ED SAPP

Record Breakers are available in three hot racing styles: Dual-Turbo racers, Tri-Power racers, and Road Burners.

Toy companies are stocking store shelves with super-fast, super-cool, high-powered race cars just in time for Christmas. So any day now, kids in your neighborhood will be pitting Baja Burners against Hurricanes in a fast and furious race to the finish line.

The super-fast cars are the latest craze from Japan. The six-inch model cars run on AA batteries and race at speeds of about ten miles per hour. That means that if these models were the size of real race cars, they would be zipping along at speeds up to 500 mph.

Tonka's *Hyper Drivers* each have a body designed to let them hit walls (or trees, or just about anything else), bounce off, and keep going. Knobby, rubber tires provide traction for all eight of the *Hyper Drivers* — on the road or off.

For road racing, Tonka is selling a track set that includes two cars. The 16 feet of track can be arranged to make five different tracks for criss-cross racing and crashing action.

Hasbro's *Record Breakers* have engines, gears, tires, and rollers that you can exchange between cars to build the model you want to race. You can even buy special accessory packs and create the ultimate racing machine. There are wheel packs, for example, of knobby off-track tires, racing slicks, or sponge tires.

ED SAPP

Tonka has rolled out eight Hyper Drivers, including Red Racer. Check out the rest of Tonka's flashy cars: Hurricane, White Lightning, Vicious Viper, Black Draggin', Frantic 4x4, Radical Racer, and Wild Fire.

RAD HOT!

Superfast Machines are offered in four models: Aero Shot, Streaker, Tomcat, and Speed King.

Experts at Hasbro say sponge tires are best for quicker starts and better traction on fast tracks — like Hasbro's Oval Raceway or Super "8" Speedway. The Raceway comes with a "Fair Start" Launcher, two cars, and over 18 feet of track. The Speedway is designed for figure eight racing. It comes with a Launcher, two cars, and 25 feet of track. You can make eight different tracks with the Speedway System.

Superfast Machines from Matchbox come completely unassembled. Each model car kit comes with a 4WD motor, one gear for high speed and another for high power, movable wings, and canopy. No glue is needed — the pieces just snap together.

The best test for the Matchbox cars is the Ultimate Challenge Test Track. The track is an 18-foot-long twin oval race course with a cross-over lane. It comes with two *Superfast Machines* and a stopwatch so you can time your runs or race a friend.

With Mattel's *Super Changers*, you can mix and match tires, motors, transmissions, and even bodies between cars. And using the eight body styles available, you can challenge any terrain and cross the finish line with style.

GP

Mattel Super Changers come in eight different body styles: Lamborghini Countach, F1 Racer, Dune Buggy, Baja Burner, Camaro, GTP, Toyota Pick-up, and Chevy Blazer.

Super-fast cars are built for speed on- or off-the-road. But tracks, like the Matchbox Ultimate Challenge Test Track, are designed for intense head-to-head racing.

RAD

HOT!

BEACH VOLLEYBALL FINALLY GETS SOME RESPECT

ASSOCIATION OF VOLLEYBALL PROFESSIONALS

Randy Stoklos is a master spiker.

Beach volleyball has been played for over fifty years. But many people thought it was a sport for beach bums. Thanks to the hard work of some great players, the sport has now gained professional status.

The game went professional in 1976 and has grown into a 29- tournament season covering 13 states.

This year players will travel to Brazil for a world tournament and to Italy, Japan, and Australia for other matches. Even communities that don't have a beach are building sand courts.

Beach volleyball is action packed. There are only two men to a team compared to six to a team in regular volleyball. The players can jump and dive without being injured because they play in soft sand. A beach volleyball is a little heavier than regular volleyballs to make up for the ocean breezes.

The rules are the same as regular volleyball. The court is the same, too, 30 feet wide and 60 feet long. Two players going all out in the sand can cover the same area that six players cover in regular volleyball. The net is 8 feet high.

"Sideout" rules mean that only the team with the serve can score. The winning team is the first one to dig and spike their way to 15 points.

Sinjin Smith, the sport's winningest player of all time, said, "You are involved in every single play. It's a combination of all sports. You run, dive, jump, dig." He said you have to "read" your opponents and rely on all your skills including hand-eye coordination and speed.

Sinjin has been playing

RAD HOT!

ASSOCIATION OF VOLLEYBALL PROFESSIONALS

Players spike and dig without injury in the soft beach sand.

ASSOCIATION OF VOLLEYBALL PROFESSIONALS

Sinjin Smith is an awesome defensive player.

volleyball, both indoor and outdoor, since he was a kid. He loves all sports, but he chose volleyball. In fact, he said most of the players could have been great at other sports, but they chose volleyball.

Growing up near the California beaches, Sinjin watched all the best players. "When I was a kid I was in total awe," he said. It was like being on a basketball court with Larry Bird. "It was so close and personal."

Finding a good partner is one of the most important things. Sinjin and his playing partner of eight years, Randy Stoklos, are the top two winning players and the top money winners in beach volleyball.

Randy said that he and Sinjin spend a lot of time together as a team on the pro tour. They eat, sleep, and play together, Randy said.

Teamwork is the key to their success, Randy said. They expect a lot of one another and they expect to win. "Sinjin pushes me and I push him," Randy said.

Together they are in a movie called "SideOut," which will be in theatres in March, and they helped produce a Nintendo game called "Kings of the Beach."

GP

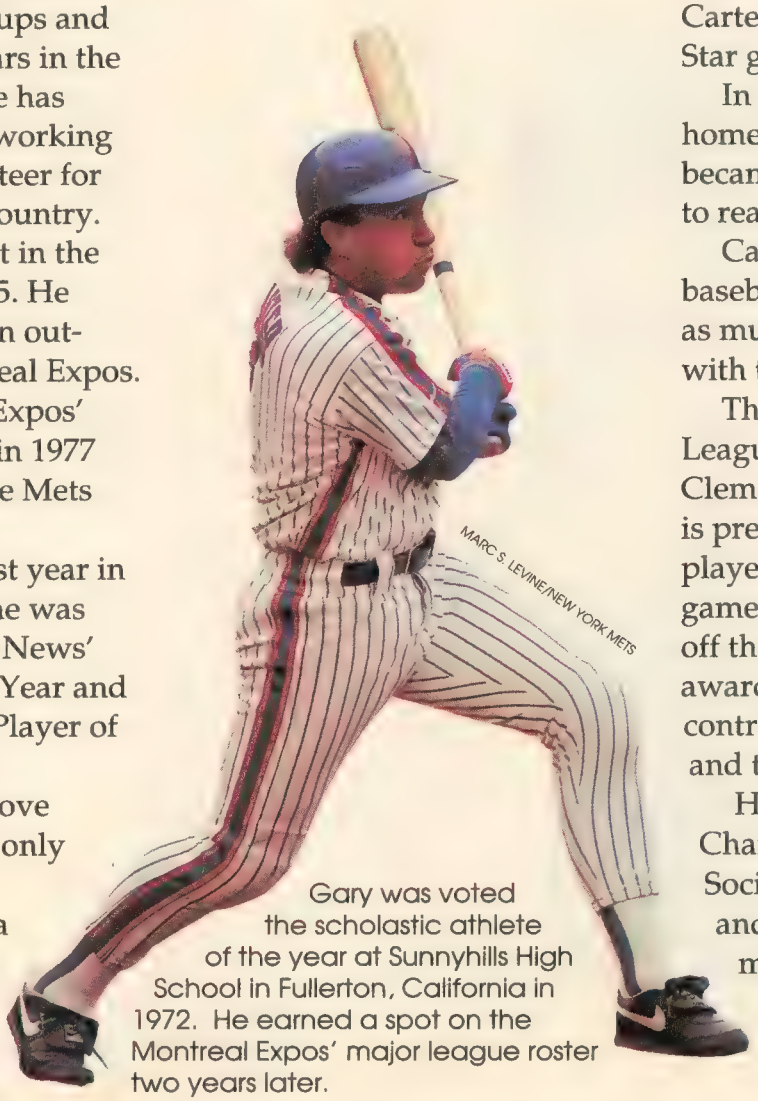
GIVING HIS ALL — ON AND OFF THE FIELD

New York Mets catcher Gary Carter has had his share of ups and downs during 15 years in the major leagues, but he has always batted 1.000 working as a dedicated volunteer for charities across the country.

Carter got his start in the major leagues in 1975. He began his career as an outfielder for the Montreal Expos. He took over as the Expos' number one catcher in 1977 and was traded to the Mets in 1984.

He had a great first year in the majors. In 1975, he was named The Sporting News' Rookie Player of the Year and the Montreal Expos Player of the Year.

Rawlings Gold Glove Awards are given to only the best fielding players. Carter won a Gold Glove three years in a row — 1980, 1981 and 1982. That means that for those three years, Carter was the best fielding catcher in the National League.



Gary was voted the scholastic athlete of the year at Sunnyhills High School in Fullerton, California in 1972. He earned a spot on the Montreal Expos' major league roster two years later.

In 1982, he won the Gillette Trophy. That award is given to the player who gets the most votes from fans to play in the All-Star game. In 1988, Carter played in his 11th All-Star game.

In 1988, Carter hit the 300th home run of his career. He became the 59th league player to reach the 300 mark.

Carter works hard on the baseball field, and he puts just as much effort into his work with the charities he supports.

This year, he won Major League Baseball's Roberto Clemente Award. The award is presented each year to a player who best represents the game of baseball, both on and off the field. Winners of the award are "good sports" who contribute a lot to their teams and to their communities.

He was named Sports Chairman of the Leukemia Society of America in 1985 and has raised close to a million dollars for the fight against leukemia.

Carter said he is committed to working

NEW YORK METS

President and Mrs. Bush invited Gary and his wife, Sandy, to the White House this year to join in the celebration of National Volunteer Week. Gary was named "Volunteer of the Year" by the Leukemia Society in 1988.

NEW YORK METS

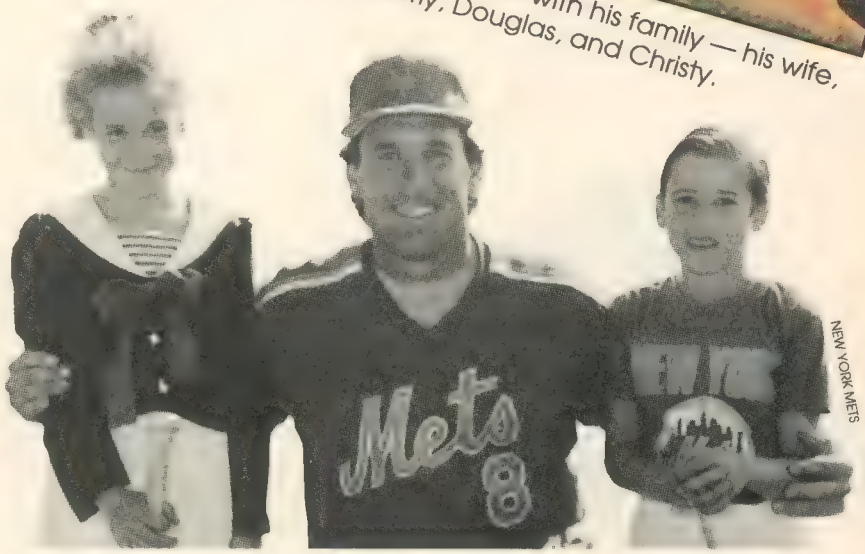
Gary enjoys spending time at home with his family — his wife, Sandy, and children, Kimberly, Douglas, and Christy.

with the society because his mother died of the disease in 1966. Leukemia is a cancer of the blood.

"When my mother died from leukemia, I swore that I would do whatever it took to help the doctors get a cure," Carter said.

He keeps in touch with victims of leukemia, and other diseases, across the nation. He calls, writes letters, and sometimes even visits the patients in hospitals.

"I'll never forget the sadness I felt when my mom died," Carter said. "It's my ambition that someday, maybe, I'll spare some other son the anguish I had felt."



NEW YORK METS

"The fans across the nation have been so generous with their support of the Leukemia Society, and if our work helps save even one life, it's all worth it," Gary said.

KC

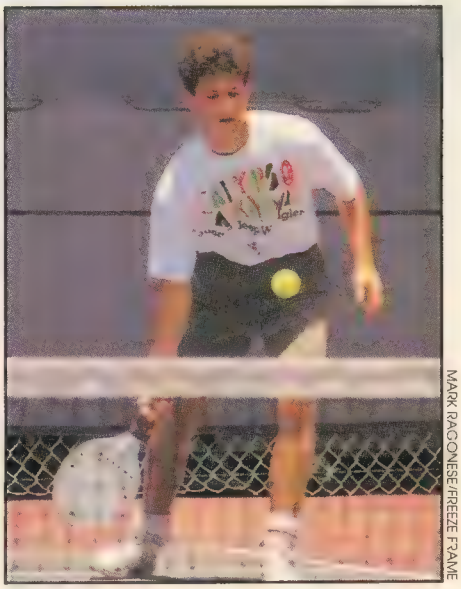
KIRK CAMERON HAS FUN WINNING FOR OTHERS!

How would you like to have fun playing a sport and at the same time raise money to help other kids enjoy life more? That's been happening a lot lately to Kirk Cameron, the popular star of ABC-TV's "Growing Pains."

Kirk, who is a good athlete, was asked to play in several celebrity charity tournaments — athletic contests that are held to raise money for people less fortunate than most. One of the events was the Fifth Annual Pro Celebrity Paddle Tennis Tournament.

WARNER BROS.

Kirk Cameron of TV's "Growing Pains" is a good athlete who likes to take part in charity athletic tournaments.



MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

What kind of a tennis racket is Kirk Cameron holding? It's a *paddle* tennis racket used in a game that's similar to regular tennis.

The money that people paid to watch the tournament was turned over to the California Medical Center Child Abuse Program. They raised over $45,000 to help other kids.

Paddle tennis is not as well known as what's called lawn tennis. Instead of a regular tennis racket, players use a paddle. The game is fast, but it's easy to learn.

Kirk was also asked to play in the Fifth Annual Celebrity Tennis Classic at the Beverly Hills Country Club. His partner was Wil Wheaton, who plays Wesley Crusher on "Star Trek: The Next Generation." They helped raise thousands of dollars for the Make A Wish Foundation, a charity that grants special wishes for kids who have life-threatening illnesses.

Kirk Cameron and his friends have found a way to take part in sports so that they win for everybody.

MARK RAGONESE/FREEZE FRAME

Kirk and his friends Brian Green, Jeremy Miller (also of "Growing Pains"), and little sister Candace Cameron all took part in the charity paddle tennis tournament to help other kids.

GAMES

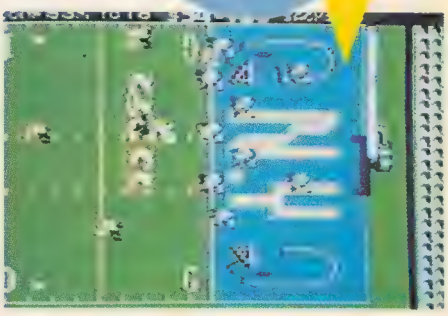
at the SPEED of LIGHT

What's impossible on the field, on the court, or in the rink can be a piece of cake on the TV screen. Fans of videogames have long known how easy it is for game players to hit home runs, make three-point shots, and score goals with the puck or foot. It's the galaxy of videogames — where anything can happen!

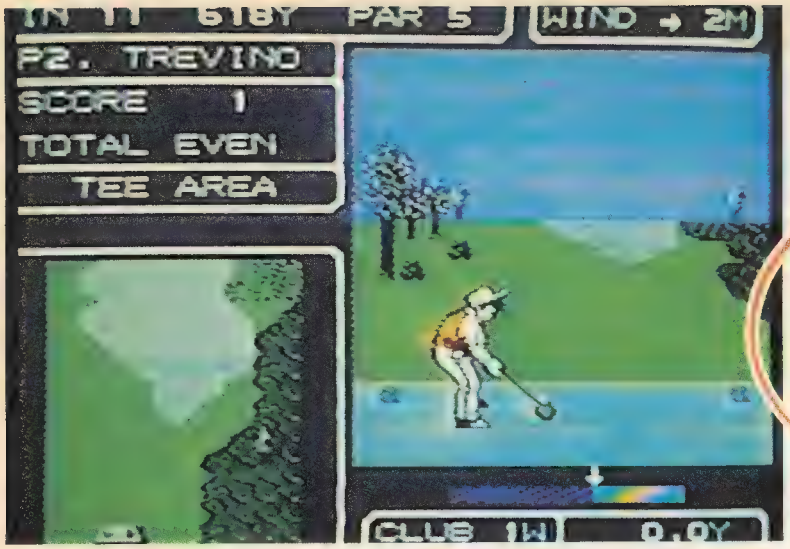
Whatever your sport is, whatever machine you play on, there's a game for you. We've put together this collection of titles to give you an idea of what's out that you might enjoy.

1. This ice game is HOT! *Blades of Steel* offers players a strong combination of fast action, colorful graphics, and super sound effects. (available for Nintendo)

2. *Baseball Stars* lets you play in the field, on the mound, behind the plate, and in the dugout. It's not just how well you throw, catch, and hit, but also how well you manage that counts. (Nintendo)

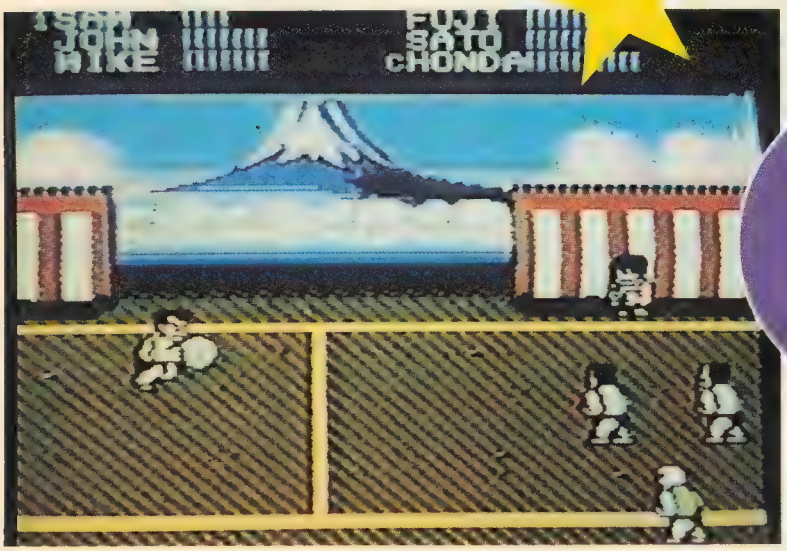


3. *Tecmo Bowl* features teams much like their National Football League counterparts. In fact, team rosters and team strengths are borrowed from the NFL. (Nintendo)



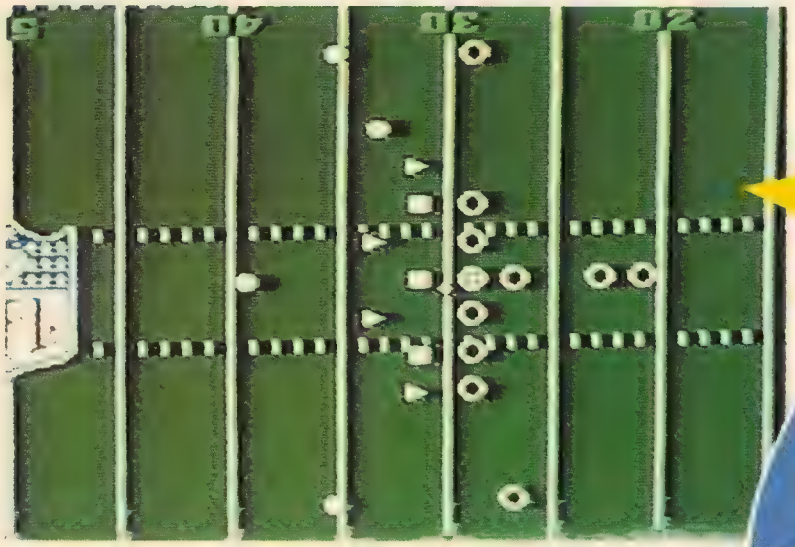
4. Every aspect of championship golf is included in *Lee Trevino's Fighting Golf* — putting, driving, pitching, and more. Grab your clubs and give it a try! (Nintendo)

5. Surprisingly, few videogames feature the world's most popular sport. *Goal* is one soccerfest that does. Compete in World Cup competition or the Shootout. (Nintendo)

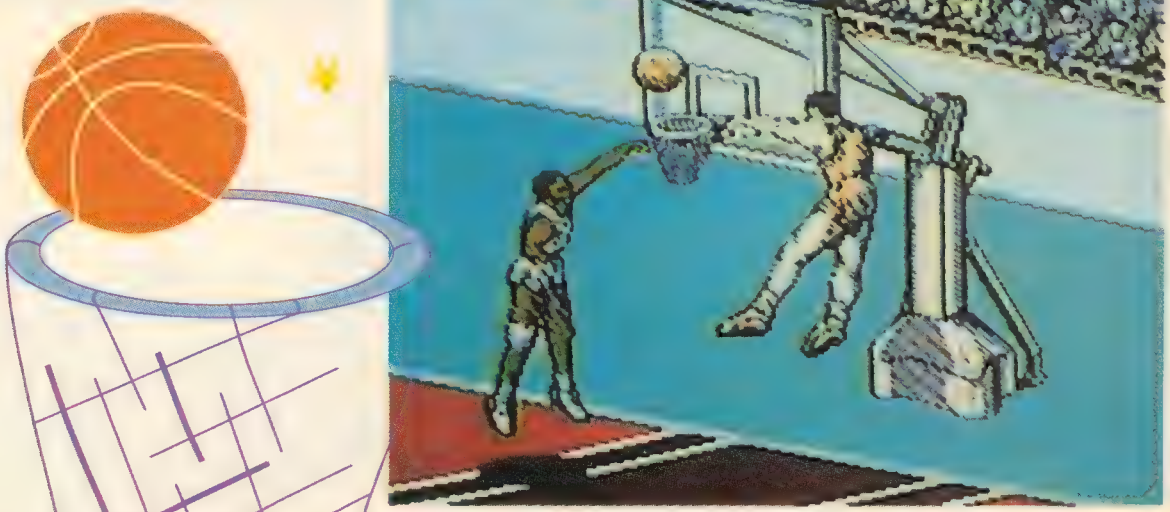


6. *Super Dodge Ball* has made its way from the playground and vacant lots to the TV screen. Try to pass, throw, and jump your way to a world championship. (Nintendo)

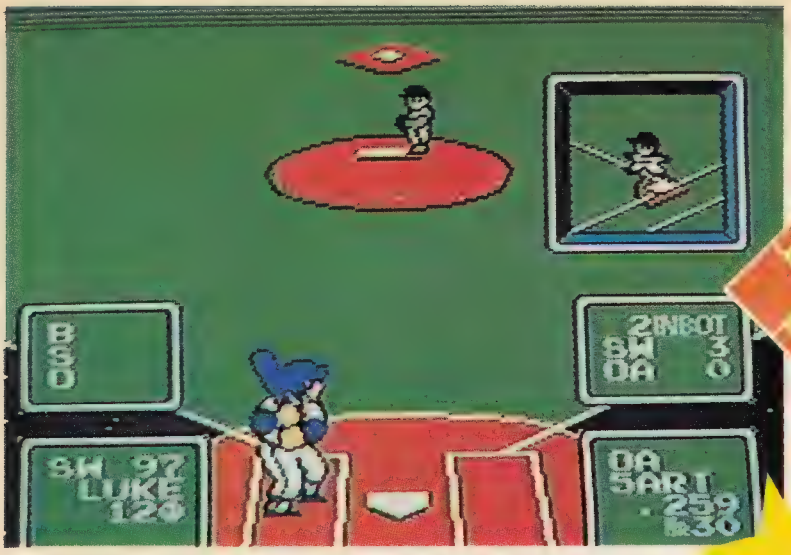
7. *Jack Nicklaus' Greatest 18 Holes of Major Championship Golf* allows gamers to challenge holes from famous golf courses around the country. Match wits and strokes with the Golden Bear himself. (Nintendo)



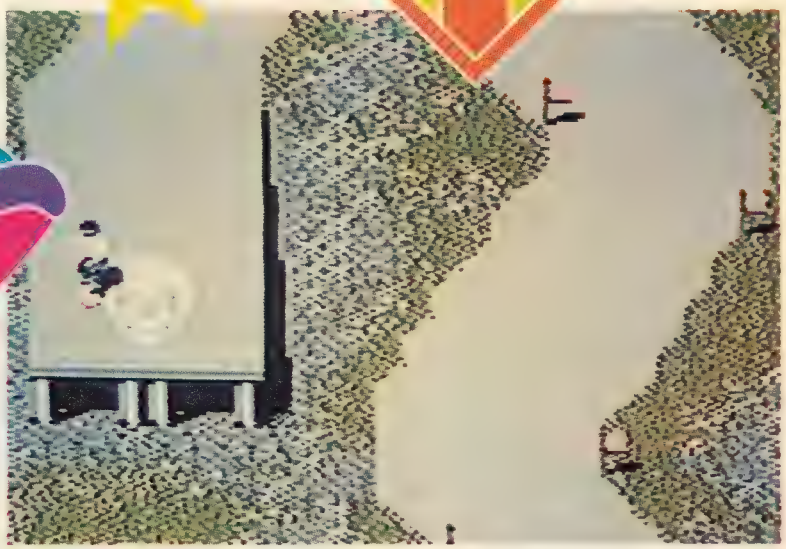
8. The National Football League has licensed only one football game: *NFL Football*. It features official team rosters and authentic offensive and defensive formations. (Nintendo)



9. *All-Pro Basketball* resembles the NBA — the action is often full contact and always fast. Choose one of eight teams with which to launch your campaign for the championship. (Nintendo)



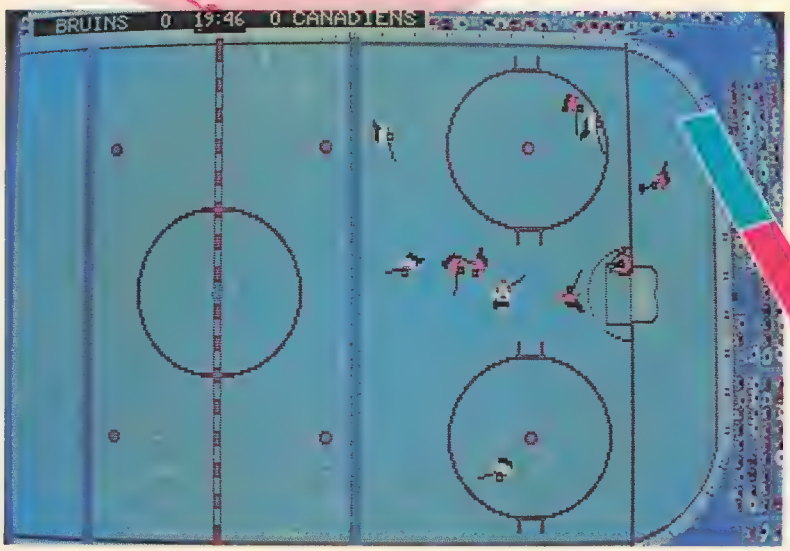
10. *Baseball Simulator 1.000* promises all that most of the other baseball games do and a bit more. You'll see things you've never seen on the baseball diamond before! (Nintendo)



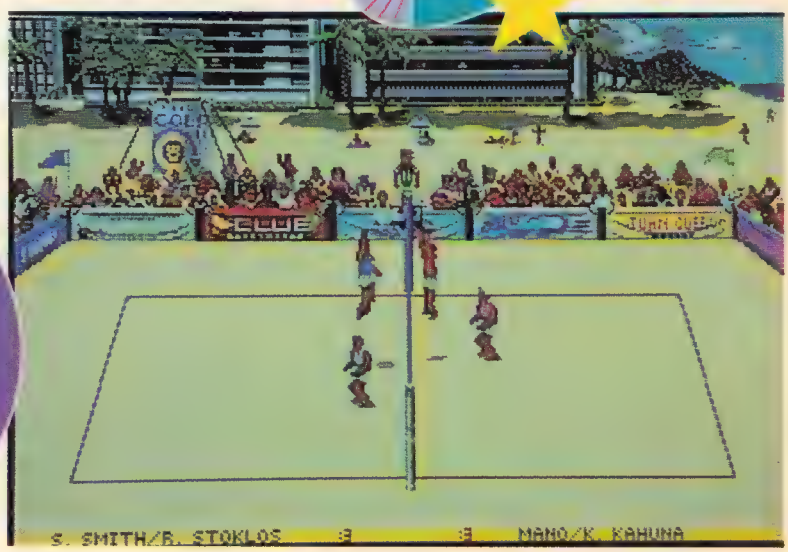
11. Rad ramp-riders should check out the five-event free-for-all in *Skate or Die.* Ollies, 720's, and rock 'n rolls — it's all possible in this game. (Nintendo; also available for IBM PC, Apple IIGS, and Commdore 64/128)

12. *California Games* is an Olympic-style videogame that lets you compete in several events. This one includes popular California sports such as skateboarding, surfing, and BMX bike racing. (Sega)

13. The detail in *Tommy Lasorda Baseball* will blow you away! You'll even see the seams on the baseball when you hit a pop fly. This excellent baseball game shows what the advanced 16-bit videogame systems can do. (Sega Genesis)

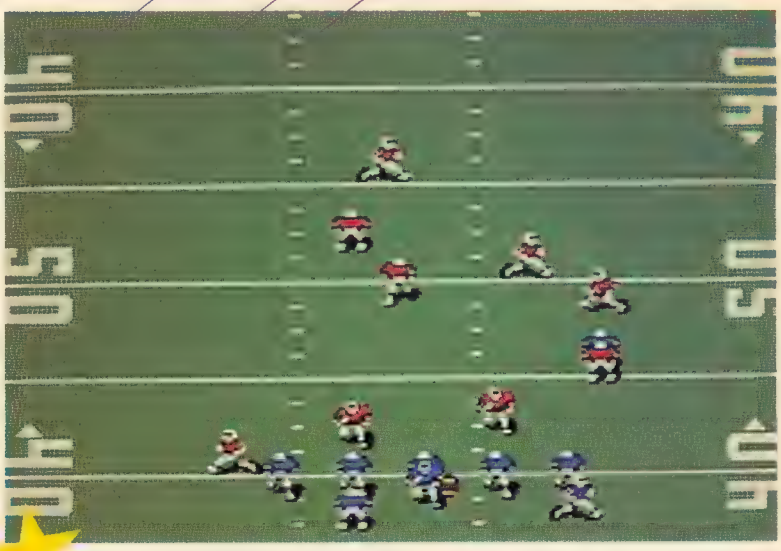


14. One game reviewer called *Wayne Gretzky Hockey* "the most realistic game ever designed for a personal computer." Play with the Great One and see for yourself. (Amiga; also available for IBM PC, Commodore 64/128, Atari ST, and Macintosh)



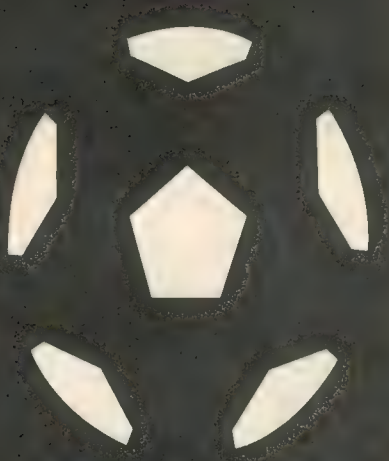
15. Beach volleyball is one of the nation's fastest-growing sports, and *Kings of the Beach* shows why. Exceptional player control, refreshing graphics, and compelling action make *Kings* as hot as the sands of California in July. (IBM PC; also available for Nintendo)

16. *Jordan vs. Bird: One on One* pits shooter versus slammer in this excellent basketball simulation. Maneuver either Air Jordan or the Birdman in one-on-one action, Jordan in the dunk contest, or Bird in the three-point shootout. (IBM PC; also available for Commodore 64/128, and Nintendo)



17. With *John Madden Football*, game players can call strategies and watch the results, or they can jump in and control a player. Is it comprehensive? There are 81 offensive and 81 defensive plays to choose from. (IBM PC)

18. Using the latest in PC technology, *ABC Monday Night Football* gives you the sensation of being on the field, in the thick of the action. The game features advanced graphics and great sound effects. (IBM PC; also available for Apple IIGS, Atari ST, Macintosh, and Commodore 64/128)



Indoor Soccer, It's a KICK!

SOCCER GOES INSIDE

For the players, fans, and the cities with teams, indoor soccer is a real kick!

What's fun about indoor soccer? Everything!

Soccer is the second most popular sport for kids under twelve. (Basketball is number one.) Today more than two million people in the United States are playing soccer indoors. It all started 11 years ago, and now eight teams play in the Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL).

One of indoor soccer's most exciting players is Tatu, the leading scorer for the Dallas Sidekicks. Tatu is originally from Brazil. Every time he scores a goal he takes off his jersey and throws it to the fans. In four years he has tossed more than 174 shirts! "It's a fantastic game to play, and to watch it is incredible, too. I will watch indoor soccer every time I have a chance because it's really exciting," Tatu said.

PHIL STEPHENS

Unlike football and other games with a lot of coaching, indoor soccer is a player's game, Tatu said. "You don't have a book to study three hours a day," Tatu said. "The coach gives you two or three plays and that's it. You make the play. You react. You make the decision and that's the beauty."

In outdoor soccer you have time to set up plays, but in indoor you have to read plays quickly because the game is so fast, Tatu said. "In indoor you have to see the play before it happens.... Sometimes you

RULES

INDOOR SOCCER AT A GLANCE

WALLS AROUND THE FIELD ARE CALLED "DASHERBOARDS".
WHEN THE BALL HITS A "DASHERBOARD" IT BOUNCES OFF AND IS STILL IN PLAY.
FIELD LOOKS LIKE AN ICE HOCKEY RINK WITH ARTIFICIAL TURF INSTEAD OF ICE.

PHIL STEPHENS

"As a player I always feel like the fans are my friends," Tatu said.

guess right and sometimes you guess wrong, but that's the fun part about it. The more you play the game the more right decisions you make, so you guess better all the time."

Brian Quinn, a five time all-star originally from Northern Ireland, is captain of the San Diego Sockers. He said, "Indoor soccer helps you improve your skills. The ball is in play a lot (because of dasherboards) so you are always involved in plays. You have to control and pass the ball. It gives you more opportunity to practice those skills."

Quinn grew up playing outdoor soccer. He said there are many little differences between indoor and outdoor soccer. "If you make a mistake in outdoor, someone can make up for it. In indoor it is an attacking kind of game. Outdoor is more methodical and takes more time to build up a play... In indoor a mistake can lead to a goal," Quinn said. He said he enjoys the quality of the indoor players and the excitement of close games.

Kids are a large part of the fans of professional indoor soccer. "I enjoy the proximity of the fans. They feel involved in the game," Quinn said.

At Sockers games the fans get especially excited because if the team scores seven goals in a game and wins, every person at the game gets a free mini-pizza. Quinn said that makes the team play harder because they want the fans to get pizzas.

The Sockers' "Junior Soccer Feets of Magic Club" for kids has 20,000 members. That's more than clubs for the San Diego Padres and Chargers combined, said a team representative. As club members, kids receive discounts on tick-

ESSY GHAVAMEDDINI

It once took Brain Quinn of the San Diego Sockers only five seconds from the start of a game to score a goal.

RULES

THE NEW OFFICIAL GAME BALL IS WHITE, BLACK, AND "ROCKET-RED".
UNLIMITED FREE SUBSTITUTIONS, PLAYERS USUALLY SWITCH OFF EVERY 2 MINUTES.
SIX PLAYERS ON EACH TEAM, OUTDOOR SOCCER HAS 11.
FOUR 15-MINUTE PERIODS.

ets, a newsletter, and invitations to parties and clinics held by the Sockers.

If you live near a professional indoor soccer team, you may have a chance to meet your favorite soccer player and get pointers on your game.

For players in the MISL, being part of a team means much more than the 52 games they play each season from October to April. These indoor soccer pros hold indoor and outdoor soccer clinics in schools and have special camps all through the year.

Each of the 20 players on the Dallas Sidekicks makes at least three public appearances a week. In June the players, including Tatu who leads his own camps, teach junior soccer camps covering both indoor and outdoor soccer. Each camper is given two tickets for the Sidekicks' first game of the season, so that game is a big reunion.

The team also visits kids in hospitals and plays games to raise money for charity. They even led a drug program called "We don't need drugs for our kicks."

Gordon Jago, president of the Sidekicks and last year's coach, said, "We are the baby sport, the new boys on the block, so we have to work harder, and each player is willing to do more for the sport." The players want kids to enjoy soccer and they want the soccer league to grow. That is one reason they have the soccer camps and spend so much time with kids. Most of the players were on an outdoor team in college. That means they can give great advice to kids who play either outdoor soccer or indoor soccer.

PHIL STEPHENS

"No matter how big or small you are, you can play. I'm a short guy and I can play. It gives a chance to everybody," says Tatu.

PHIL STEPHENS

Rusty Troy of the Baltimore Blast enjoys teaching kids soccer as well as playing.

The Baltimore Blast indoor team holds seven weeks of soccer camp and, like many other camps, they give each camper a T-shirt and lunch. The players also visit schools, festivals, and Maryland's state fair.

Blast player Rusty Troy was last season's Rookie of the Year. Troy said, "I can remember when I was little and I used to go to (soccer) camps with Kenny Cooper (the Blast current coach). I know what it is like to have someone to look up to. It's important to give

RULES

THE OBJECT IS TO SCORE THE MOST GOALS BY THE END OF THE GAME.
THE GAME IS VERY FAST-MOVING.
GOAL IS 12 FEET WIDE, HALF THE SIZE OF OUTDOOR.

kids an opportunity to be the best they can be."

Now Troy teaches kids at soccer camps. "It's up to me to teach them to develop and become better players," he said. Troy said he feels good when kids learn to improve their skills.

Teams like the Kansas City Comets make as many as 375 appearances each year. One of the many things they do is hold "Soccer Saturdays" where the players conduct clinics at parks and schools. The Cleveland Crunch is a new team this year, and they have already held a camp for blind kids. They play with a beeper in the ball.

The indoor soccer league is different from other professional sports because the players spend a lot of time with kids, even after games. That makes this already great sport even more fun.

PHIL STEPHENS

Preki of the Tacoma Stars does some fast footwork to escape two defenders.

GP

Preki led the indoor league with 58 assists in 1988. That means he was considered the league's best passer. In 1989 he tied for most assists, 53, with Chico Borja of the Wichita Wings.

PHIL STEPHENS

SIMON KEITH LOVES SOCCER !

Steve Spatafore

Simon started in all 20 games he played at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

July 7, 1989, was a very special day for Simon Keith. He played in the college all-star soccer game and was voted most valuable player for scoring one goal and making two assists. Two days later the Cleveland Crunch of the Major Indoor Soccer League chose Simon as the number one draft pick.

July 7, 1989, was special to Simon for another reason. Three years earlier on July 7, 1986, Simon received a heart transplant from a 17-year-old who died while playing soccer. Simon is the only professional player in any sport who has a new heart.

Simon needed a new heart because he had a rare virus that caused his heart to waste away. Having a heart transplant can be very scary, but Simon said, "[It] was a solution to how I could play soccer, so my question was when can we do it and how quickly can we get it done."

Three months after surgery Simon was making an incredible recovery and began playing soccer. He said he wanted to play earlier, but he had to wait for his breastbone to heal.

Today Simon is a terrific soccer player. He is faster than most players and he has a rare ability for playing with his back to the goal. That makes it difficult to defend against him. He is also great at scoring goals.

While growing up in Vic-

toria, Canada, Simon learned to play soccer from his dad, who is a teacher and a soccer coach. "For kids it's a natural game. You run and jump, things you naturally do, but with a little competitiveness," Simon said.

His father taught him that soccer is simple and if you learn the basics you will do fine. "My brother was always a better soccer player than I was when I was a kid, and I just wanted to be a better player and teach kids," he said.

Simon did become a better player. When he was in the 11th and 12th grades he played for the Canadian Under-19 National Team. Later he played for his college team at the University of British Columbia in Canada. He became so good that he also played soccer for the Canadian National Pool Team which was preparing for World Cup competition.

After recovering from his surgery, Simon transferred to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas (UNLV) and played on the soccer team with his brother. "It was tough because they didn't know what to expect. They didn't want to tackle me," Simon said. After a week the team got used to treating him like any other player, he said.

In the two seasons that Simon played at UNLV he started in all 20 games. He majored in secondary education and made excellent grades. Simon also represented UNLV as their Scholar Athlete of the Year for the Big West Conference.

Of all his accomplishments, Simon said getting back into shape and doing well in school meant the most to him. He said his goals now are to play professional soccer, which he is doing, and to teach. Simon already teaches soccer camps in Canada.

Simon's message to kids is, "Do things you love to do, and do them even if someone tells you you can't."

Caught in a crunch, Simon dribbles clear of his opponent.

LOOK IT UP!

Q: Here's the scenario: Joe Montana, quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers, has a pass blocked at the line of scrimmage. It lands back in Montana's hands. He then runs 15 yards before being tackled by Dave Duerson of the Chicago Bears. Does Montana get credit for completing the pass?

A: *Montana not only gets credit for the pass completion, he also goes into the books as having a 15-yard reception.*

Q: Let's say Dominique Wilkins is running down the floor in a one-on-one situation with time running out. What's the call if he passes the ball to himself off the backboard and then slams it in?

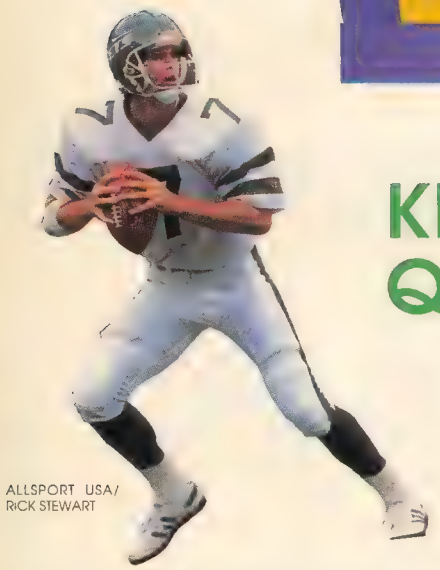
A: *Because he never lost control of the ball, he can't legally receive his own pass off the backboard. It is ruled as a pass to himself and that's traveling. The basket doesn't count.*

Q: In a game against the New York Rangers, Wayne Gretzky falls with the puck near his own net. While on the ice, he looks for a teammate. He sees fellow Los Angeles King Larry Robinson in front of the net and pushes the puck to Robinson with his glove. The puck hits Robinson's skate and ends up in the Kings' net. Does the goal count for the Rangers?

A: *Yes! Last season, action stopped if a player passed the puck with his glove. This year, play continues.*

GP

PRO TIPS



ALLSPORT USA/
RICK STEWART

Jets quarterback Ken O'Brien once threw five touchdown passes in a game.

KEN O'BRIEN'S ADVICE FOR QUARTERBACKS

To learn how to be a good quarterback, there's no simple list of rules that will lead to success.

Every quarterback has to learn the right way to throw for himself. That's the advice of Ken O'Brien, the star passer for the New York Jets.

Ken recently gave a coaching lesson to a group of kids who visited the Jets' training camp on Long Island, near New York City. "To throw a pass, you have to do what comes naturally," Ken said. "There are no step-by-step rules for throwing a perfect pass. You have to find a ball and throw it many times."

Ken has been the Jets' starting quarterback for the last four seasons. He's the Jets' most accurate passer ever. Here are some tips from Ken on throwing the football and playing quarterback:

•Get a grip on the ball that feels good to you. "You have to use your hands and find a comfortable position to hold the ball, then go out and practice."

•As you throw, step in the direction you're throwing to. "One thing many people don't understand is that to throw a pass, you have to use your legs, not just your arms. Step into the pass and take the pressure off your arms."

•Focus your mind on the game - concentrate. "When game time comes, I don't think about the crowds. I just think about what I have to do to put my team in a winning situation."

•When you're playing the game, don't think about getting hurt. "If you ever thought about a group of 300-pound guys chasing you around the field, it's enough to scare anyone. If you ever start worrying, that's when

you're not playing at your best."

• Keep trying. "The key is to keep practicing."

Ken is in his seventh season with the Jets. "I started like every kid, playing in my front yard," Ken said. "I have been playing organized football since the fifth grade."

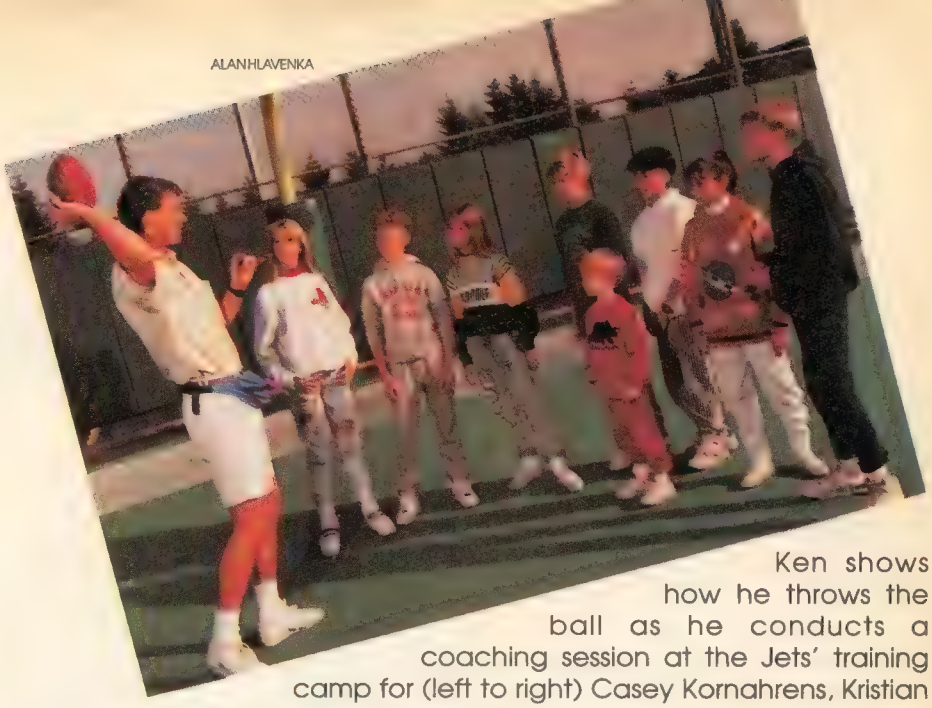
He is 29. He and his wife, Stacey, have a two-year-old daughter and a one-year-old son.

Ken was born in Brooklyn, New York, but grew up in California. He was an All-American quarterback for the University of California at Davis. The Jets made Ken their first pick in the 1983 draft of college players.

He loves being a pro quarterback. "It's a lot of work, but I don't consider it work," he said. "It's a living, but it's also lots of fun."

GP

ALAN HLAVENKA



Ken shows how he throws the ball as he conducts a coaching session at the Jets' training camp for (left to right) Casey Kornahrens, Kristian Collins, Kelly Kornahrens, Paul Vincent, Nolan Collins, Michael Wong, Joanne Zimbardi, and Adam Collins.

ALAN HLAVENKA

Ken gives Adam Collins some advice on getting a comfortable grip.

ALAN HLAVENKA

Trying out the advice: Adam gets one more pointer from Ken...

ALAN HLAVENKA

... and puts the ball in the air.

PACE SETTERS

RUNNING A STEP AHEAD

Running has taken Vicki Huber places most people only dream about. Places like the finish line in the 3,000-meter race at the Seoul Olympics.

"When I was little, I wanted to be a gymnast. Then I just wanted to play field hockey," Huber told *Game Player's Sports for Kids*. "The Olympics didn't really become a goal until I was a junior in high school."

That's when she really started running.

Huber said her older brother, David, made a big impression on her when she was growing up. Vicki is 22, David is 24.

"I used to watch him run and I thought he was just the greatest. I guess watching him is what really led me into track. I wanted to do just what he did," she said.

Huber got into track in a big way, winning state championships and setting records running for Concord High School in Wilmington, Delaware.

THEO WESTENBERGER

Almost as comfortable hitting the books as she is running laps, Huber said she stayed up late many nights to keep her B+ average.

She started college in 1985, picking Villanova University and track coach Marty Stern over schools like North Carolina, Alabama, Virginia and Tennessee.

In 1988, Huber became the first Villanova woman athlete to compete in the Olympic Games. She finished sixth in the final of the 3,000-meter race, the first U.S. runner across the finish line.

Huber ran the race, seven and one-half laps around the track, in eight minutes, 37.25 seconds — an American collegiate record.

What's it like to run in the Olympics? "It was one of the most incredible experiences of my life," Huber said. "I was kind of relaxed before the race. It was so big, there was really too much to be nervous about."

Crossing the finish line was a different story. "I couldn't stop crying, I was so happy," she said. "It was like everything just came out after the race — all the hard work, training alone, everything I'd done to get there."

And she hopes to do it all again for the 1992 Games in Barcelona, Spain, and maybe again in 1996. "I'd like to keep running through the '96 Games," Huber said, smiling, "depending on what happens in '92."

Her good grades and study habits will take her places running can't. Huber will graduate from Villanova with a B+ average and plans

to go on to medical or graduate school.

Looking back at how it all started for her, Huber explained, "Track started out being more social than serious. It's still a lot of fun, but it's also a lot of strain and pressure."

As long as running is fun, Huber will stick with it. That's one of the most important things she's learned. "If you enjoy doing something, you'll keep doing it," she said.

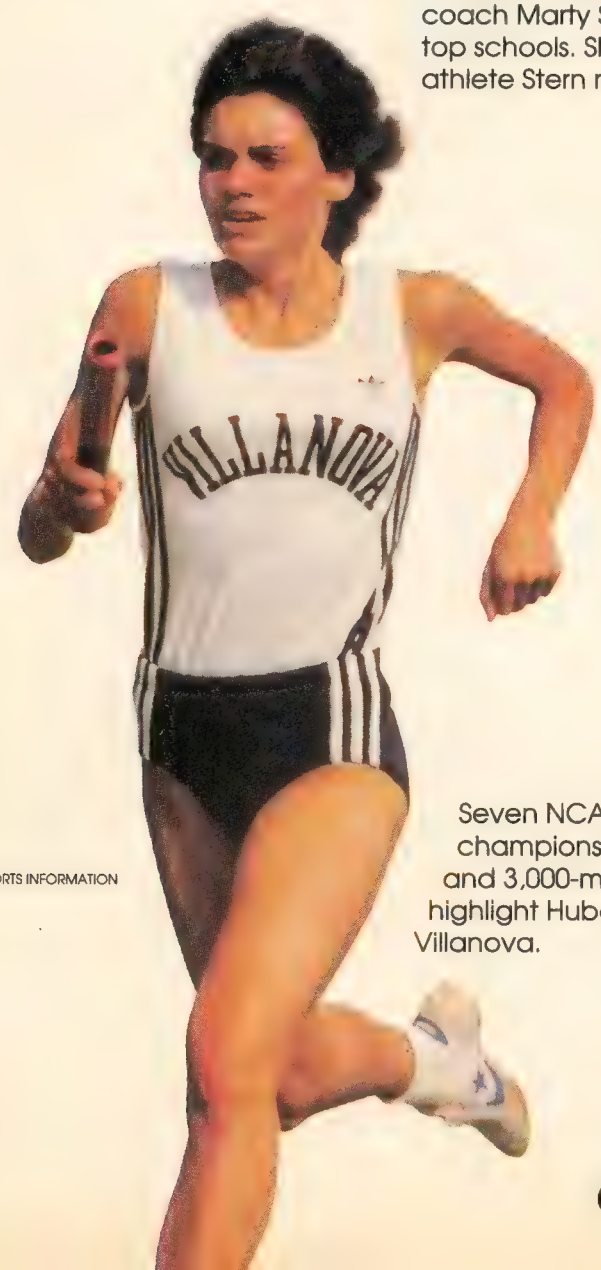
GP

THEO WESTENBERGER

Huber picked Villanova and coach Marty Stern over other top schools. She was the first athlete Stern recruited.

VILLANOVA SPORTS INFORMATION

Huber was the first Villanova woman athlete to compete in the Olympic Games.



VILLANOVA SPORTS INFORMATION

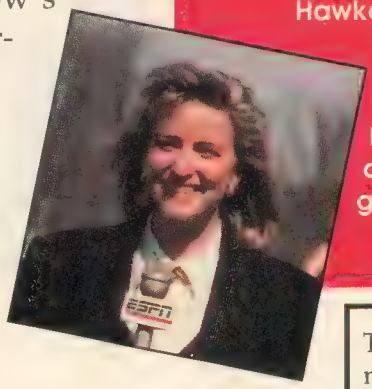
Seven NCAA individual championships in the mile and 3,000-meter races highlight Huber's career at Villanova.

Scholastic Sports America

There's only one program on national television that covers strictly high school athletics — ESPN's *Scholastic Sports America*. Since it first aired in September 1986, the show has featured just about every possible high school sport, including archery, rodeo, and skiing.

Sharlene Hawkes says she loves her job because she gets to talk with top high school athletes from around the country.

"We like to highlight kids who are setting goals for themselves, regardless of the sport they play," said the show's host, Sharlene Hawkes. "We've covered more than 700 stories in all 50 states."



"Sport is wonderful," Hawkes said, "because it teaches you how to win, how to lose, and how to set goals."

One of the more interesting stories presented on the show was about Seba Johnson. "Seba is a one-woman ski team from the Virgin Islands (where they don't get any snow) and the only black in competitive skiing," said Hawkes. Johnson later competed in the 1988 Winter Olympics.

Each program includes a cover story, the honor roll athlete of the week, RecordSetters (players or teams that have set local, state, or national marks), Hometown Heroes, and the Nickname Hall of Fame. The cover story usually focuses on someone who excels on the playing field *and* in the classroom. After all, said Hawkes, doing well in athletics must go with trying your best in academics.

GP

The *Scholastic Sports America* Nickname Hall of Fame is one of the most popular features on the program. It highlights the offbeat high school nicknames from around the country. Here are some of the nicknames already in the Hall of Fame:

- ✓ The Belfrey High Bats from Belfrey, Montana
- ✓ The Mt. Tamalpais High Boneheads from Mill Valley, California
- ✓ The Grimsley High Whirlies from Greensboro, North Carolina
- ✓ The Sleepy Hollow High Headless Horsemen from Tarrytown, New York
- ✓ The Freeport High Pretzels from Freeport, Illinois
- ✓ The Carlsbad High Cavemen (and Cavegirls) from Carlsbad, New Mexico
- ✓ The Teutopolis High Wooden Shoes from Teutopolis, Illinois
- ✓ The Speedway High Sparkplugs from Speedway, Indiana

Days and times the program can be seen vary due to ESPN's coverage of college basketball. Please consult your local listings.

THE SUNKIST K.I.D.S.

On ESPN's *Sunkist K.I.D.S.*, you can see kids doing what they do best. Sometimes it's basketball or football, and at other times it's something a little less common, like boomerang throwing.

The host of the show, Michael Young, said he wants to give kids as much variety as possible. "We've featured rodeo, field hockey, and Frisbee tossing," he said. "We don't want to be boring."

Maybe someday Meg and Beth can bring home the gold in the Olympics.

Jesse takes a break from hockey practice to share the spotlight with the host of *Sunkist K.I.D.S.*, Michael Young.

Jesse Chambless was the field hockey player featured on the program. At eight years old, Jesse is the youngest player in his league. But he is also one of the league's best competitors. He said he loves the action and exercise in field hockey.

Last year, *Sunkist K.I.D.S.* profiled twin synchronized swimmers, Meg and Beth Wynstra. This graceful pair of nine-year-olds was inspired by another set of twins, Karen and Sarah Josephson, who performed in the 1988 Olympics held in Seoul. The Wynstras, who are from Walnut Creek, California, also hope to make it to the Olympics someday.

Young said that amazing athletes aren't the only kids on the program. "We are looking for kids who have overcome the odds to succeed in some way and athletes who do well in school or give something back to their community."

If you you know someone who might be what *Sunkist K.I.D.S.* is looking for, send them a letter. "We're getting flooded with mail from parents, kids, grandparents, and coaches," said Young. "But we love it because that's where the ideas for the shows come from."

Write *Sunkist K.I.D.S.* at 1438 N. Gower Street, #38, Hollywood, California 90028.

GP

Sunkist K.I.D.S. — Through November 18, the show will air on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. and on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Beginning November 27, the show can be seen on Mondays at 9:30 a.m.(EST).

off-the-shelf

GETTING THE

"I first realized how much I loved the game of basketball when I began to look forward to practices. I mean, I enjoy the practices as much as the games."

That is how Michael Jordan describes his love for basketball in *The Edge*.

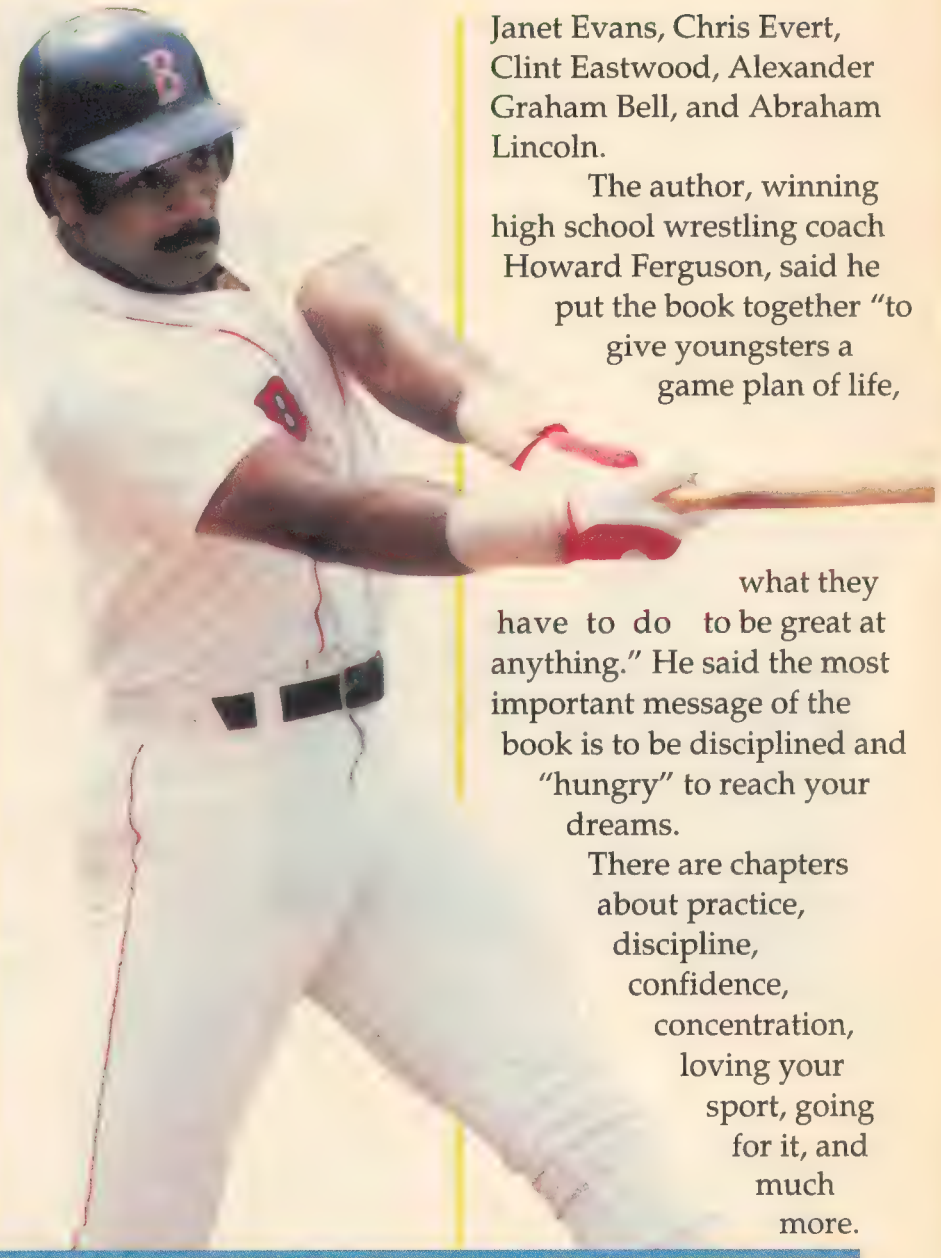
Jordan is one of the many athletes who share thoughts about sports in *The Edge*. Full of quotes from over 750 stars, some old and some new, *The Edge* features figures from the sports world but also includes presidents, military and religious leaders, entertainers, and writers.

"Athletes are role models. We should take advantage of that opportunity and make other people's lives better," said Isaiah Thomas of the Detroit Pistons basketball team. That is just what the athletes in *The Edge* do.

You can read the thoughts of people like Bo Jackson, Andre Agassi, Janet Evans, Chris Evert, Clint Eastwood, Alexander Graham Bell, and Abraham Lincoln.

The author, winning high school wrestling coach Howard Ferguson, said he put the book together "to give youngsters a game plan of life, what they have to do to be great at anything." He said the most important message of the book is to be disciplined and "hungry" to reach your dreams.

There are chapters about practice, discipline, confidence, concentration, loving your sport, going for it, and much more.



"My ambition is to be the best at what I do. That's all I'll ever really want. I decided that if I was going to be a designated hitter, I was going to be the best designated hitter in baseball."

Jim Rice, Boston Red Sox outfielder

HEINZ KLUETMEIER

EDGE

ANDY HAYT

"Fame and fortune haven't gone to my head. I just try to enjoy life, and have a little fun. As for basketball, I want to have fun. Jump up and down and scream. I love to play basketball."

"Magic" Johnson, Los Angeles Lakers guard

PETER READ MILLER

"I rely on two important qualities to win—discipline and concentration. I carry self-discipline from my personal life onto the practice court and on to the center court. Then I concentrate totally on playing my game and on winning."

Tracy Austin, professional tennis player

Reading the experiences of great athletes will help you want to go for it!

Greg Louganis, diver and winner of four Olympic gold medals, hit his head on the diving board during the 1988 Olympics. He said it was difficult to do another dive right away. "I never thought about giving up or failing on my next dive. I just envisioned myself hitting the dive perfectly."

The book is hardback with 378 pages and hundreds of pictures. Your parents will love it as much as you. Order a copy by writing to: Getting the Edge Company, 800 Playhouse Square Plaza, 1220 Huron Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44115. Send $29.95 plus $3.50 for shipping and handling. *The Edge* will be in bookstores in June.

GP

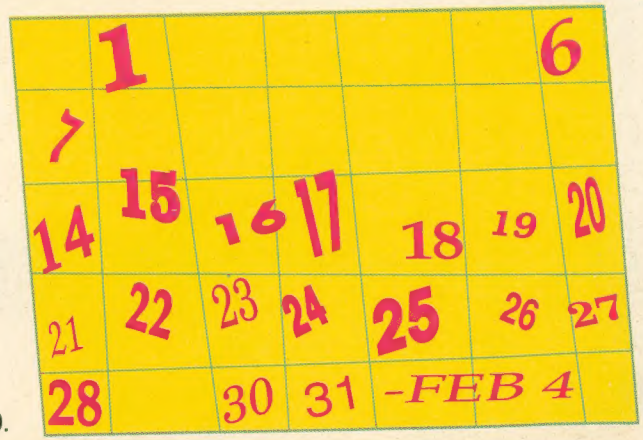
Photos courtesy of *The Edge*

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

1-2: Tournament of Champions (college basketball), Charlotte, N.C.
2: AAU National Cross-Country Championships, Hammond, Ind.
2-3: NCAA Division I men's soccer championship, site to be determined.
4-7: ACC-Big East Challenge, basketball doubleheaders at Hartford, Conn.; Greensboro, N.C.; and East Rutherford, N.J.
9: NCAA Division II football championship, Florence, Ala.
California Bowl, Fresno, Calif.
16: NCAA Division I-AA football championship, Statesboro, Ga.
NAIA college football championship, site to be determined.
Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La.
17-19: U.S. Open swimming championships, Orlando, Fla.
24: Last Sunday of NFL regular season.
25: Aloha Bowl, Honolulu, Hawaii
28: All-American Bowl, Birmingham, Ala.
28-30: Rainbow Classic (basketball), Honolulu, Hawaii
29: Freedom Bowl, Anaheim, Calif.
Holiday Bowl, San Diego, Calif.
Liberty Bowl, Memphis, Tenn.
30: Copper Bowl, Tucson, Ariz.
Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla.
Peach Bowl, Atlanta, Ga.
Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas
31: NFL Playoffs: Wild-card games

JANUARY



1: Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla.
Cotton Bowl, Dallas, Texas
Fiesta Bowl, Tempe, Ariz.
Hall of Fame Bowl, Tampa, Fla.
Orange Bowl, Miami, Fla.
Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif.
Sugar Bowl, New Orleans, La.
6-7: NFL Playoffs: Conference semi-finals.
14: NFL Playoffs: Conference championships
15-28: Australian Open (tennis), Melbourne, Australia.
17-20: Op Pro of Snowboarding, June Mountain, Calif.
28: Super Bowl, New Orleans, La.
30-Feb. 4: European Figure Skating Championships, Leningrad, USSR

SEASONS ALREADY UNDER WAY:
National Football League
National Basketball Association
National Hockey League
Major Indoor Soccer League
College basketball
College football

COMING IN FEBRUARY:
The NBA All-Star Game,
the NFL Pro Bowl, and the Daytona 500.

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST

Eliminating terrorists.

Easier said than done. You must destroy these soldiers of fortune who strike you with machine guns, tanks, grenades and worse. Only then can you celebrate your victories.

Go beyond traditional war games and see why CABAL is #1 in the arcades. The fast action of every covert operation keeps you at the edge of survival.

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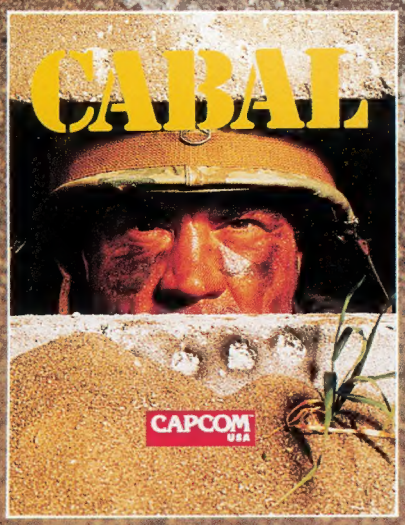

Cabal Screen Shots.

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